

20001214.qrp v02_n036.qrl.20001214

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 19:03:14 EST

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 2036

QRP-L Digest 2036

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [86253] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
by "Gene Alan Williamson C." <genewill@ordata.com>
- 2) [86254] Heil ProMicro Headset Special at AES
by Paul Womble <pwomble1@tampabay.rr.com>
- 3) [86255] CON-TESTING BLUES
by hamjoel@juno.com
- 4) [86256] Re: Chirp... help
by w0av@juno.com
- 5) [86257] Re: Chirp... help
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 6) [86258] Re: Ceramic/porcelain crystal socket
by Stephen M Smith <sigcom@juno.com>
- 7) [86259] Contesting Hints
by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 8) [86260] Re: Chirp... help
by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
- 9) [86261] Re: [86172] voltage doubling circuits
by Doug Faunt N6TQS +1-510-655-8604 <faunt@panix.com>
- 10) [86262] Re: Contesting Hints
by "W7TRX" <w7trx@mindspring.com>
- 11) [86263] BFO output Isolation Daughter Board to enable PSK via My INDEX QR
P+ Rig SN928
by Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>
- 12) [86264] RE: [86098] The new contester blues
by Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainet.net>
- 13) [86265] CUB FOX HUNT - N0IT
by Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>
- 14) [86266] FS Teflon xmas sale bulk offer
by n2go@arrl.net
- 15) [86267] [Cub Fox] Anyone Heard the Foxii ?
by "Michael Melland" <badger@vbe.com>
- 16) [86268] RE: Chirp... help
by "Tony Fegan VE3QF" <ve3qf@amsat.org>
- 17) [86269] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - N0IT
by Lew Paceley <lew@paceley.com>
- 18) [86270] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - N0IT
by "Don Wines" <dwines@tyler.net>

- 19) [86271] [Cub Fox] Anyone Heard the Foxii ?
by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
- 20) [86272] NO Foxii in SC
by "Ken Kirkley" <ogbc@mindspring.com>
- 21) [86273] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT
by w2xn@juno.com
- 22) [86274] CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT
by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
- 23) [86275] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT
by "bob baxter" <rbaxter@cybertrails.com>
- 24) [86276] (CUB FOXII) BOOM!! DOUBLE BARREL
by Earl Murphy <earlmurf@telusplanet.net>
- 25) [86277] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT
by Paul Womble <pwomble1@tampabay.rr.com>
- 26) [86278] RE: CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT
by "David Bixler" <grp@netins.net>
- 27) [86279] Fox: Got him!
by "TC Dufresne" <tdufres@radiks.net>
- 28) [86280] Need a quick listen...
by preacher102677@juno.com
- 29) [86281] Re: Go get Da FOX N9AW
by "Jerry Scherkenbach" <jerrys@execpc.com>
- 30) [86282] Speaker-Mike w/Epiphyte 3
by Dan Reynolds <bcdlr@yahoo.com>
- 31) [86283] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT
by "blinn" <blinn@dmi.net>
- 32) [86284] 160 QRP!?!
by Steve Bauder <sbauder@win.bright.net>
- 33) [86285] Golden Fox Thursday night
by "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
- 34) [86286] Re: Speaker-Mike w/Epiphyte 3
by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
- 35) [86287] Re: FS Teflon xmas sale bulk offer
by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
- 36) [86288] CUB FOX HUNT--shut tight!
by Kenneth Hoglund <hoglund@wfu.edu>
- 37) [86289] Has anyone added a VFO to sseng.com's ARK CW trcvr?
by "Chris Wagner" <mm1esg@compuserve.de>
- 38) [86290] WTB: monoband wire antennas trimmed to 50 ohm for 17/20/30m
by "Chris Wagner" <mm1esg@compuserve.de>
- 39) [86291] Re: Has anyone added a VFO to sseng.com's ARK CW trcvr?
by "Trevor Jacobs" <fxtech@earthlink.net>
- 40) [86292] Re: [Cub Fox] Anyone Heard the Foxii ?
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 41) [86293] report: VP5 on QRP
by BruceAA5B@aol.com
- 42) [86294] Corrosion on aluminum
by Tim ORourke <TORourke@KaiserFT.com>

- 43) [86295] Re: 160 QRP!?!
by W0rw@aol.com
- 44) [86296] Re: teflon xmas bulk sale?
by n2go@arrl.net
- 45) [86297] RE VOLTAGE DOUBLING
by hamjoel@juno.com
- 46) [86298] CUB FOX HUNT - N0IT
by Dave Sjolin <sjolin@swbell.net>
- 47) [86299] The new contester blues
by DBirn61340@aol.com
- 48) [86300] QRP Picture Taking
by wd9eyb@butler.qrp.com
- 49) [86301] RE: Chirp... help
by "AI2Q Alex" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>
- 50) [86302] FT301SD ?
by "John L. Sielke" <w2agn@pobox.com>
- 51) [86303] Re: The new contester blues
by "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
- 52) [86304] Contesting Hints
by "Crandall, Chuck/ATL" <CCrandal@CH2M.com>
- 53) [86305] OT: Tube ID
by Tom Mc <tjmc@erols.com>
- 54) [86306] Re: multi-band antenna
by Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
- 55) [86307] Concentricity
by "Tim Billingsley KD5CKP" <kd5ckp@yahoo.com>
- 56) [86308] PSK-80 Warbler Group Building Session
by wd9eyb@butler.qrp.com
- 57) [86309] Dog House Sprint Logs Needed
by Ken Newman <N2CQ@citnet.com>
- 58) [86310] LM386 replacement experiments
by Bill Jones <kd7s@psnw.com>
- 59) [86311] Re: WTB: monoband wire antennas trimmed to 50 ohm for 17/20/30m
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 60) [86312] KC-1 & NC 20-
by RangerSF5@aol.com
- 61) [86313] Re: Concentricity
by "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
- 62) [86314] Re: WTB: monoband wire antennas trimmed to 50 ohm for 17/20/30m
by Richard Matthews <prm@hiwaay.net>
- 63) [86315] OT: tube ID found
by Tom Mc <tjmc@erols.com>
- 64) [86316] Re: Voltage Doubling circuits. Thanks all!
by "M05aaa01" <merryprankster@CWCOM.NET>
- 65) [86317] Screwdriver antenna deployed.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
- 66) [86318] NEQRP Net tonight
by Jim Cluett <w1pid@yahoo.com>

- 67) [86319] Re: 160 QRP!?!
by Rick Robinson <rerobins@email.uncc.edu>
- 68) [86320] Re: Warbler shipping update
by W2BJ <barry@minsky.org>
- 69) [86321] Re: WTB: monoband wire antennas trimmed to 50 ohm for 17/20/30m
by "Don Wilhelm" <w3fpr@arrl.net>
- 70) [86322] Re: KC-1 & NC 20-
by igeq100@iupui.edu
- 71) [86323] NETXQRP Club Meeting
by "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
- 72) [86324] Re: FS teflon xmas bulk/non-bulk ?
by n2go@arrl.net
- 73) [86325] SPK/MIC and PSK-31 with the Epiphyte-3
by "J. D. Spittle VE7QK" <jds@vcn.bc.ca>
- 74) [86326] Re: LM386 replacement experiments
by "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
- 75) [86327] Fw: CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT
by w2xn@juno.com
- 76) [86328] Re: Screwdriver antenna deployed.
by "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
- 77) [86329] Next Knitelite Net, Dec 17(Dec 10 Report)
by Bob Kellogg <ae4ic@nr.infi.net>
- 78) [86330] Re: 160 QRP!?!
by "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
- 79) [86331] [OT] Renewing Amateur License
by schoon@amgt.com
- 80) [86332] Christmas solare eclipse
by n2cx@voicenet.com
- 81) [86333] Re:LM386 replacement experiments
by Bill Jones <kd7s@psnw.com>
- 82) [86334] Ten Tec Superhet kit
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 83) [86335] RE: Heil MicroPro headsets on sale at AES
by "Joe Trombino" <w2kj@earthlink.net>
- 84) [86336] balun or not and engineers may not be skilled in all aspects
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 85) [86337] Re: [OT] Renewing Amateur License
by K2UD@aol.com
- 86) [86338] scope probes
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 87) [86339] Re: Fw: CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT
by Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>
- 88) [86340] Faulty merchandise and look at warranty terms up front
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 89) [86341] MS-15 alive in Fresno
by dave_epps@juno.com
- 90) [86342] Contest skills, changing bands
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>

91) [86343] Re: KC-1 & NC 20-Need more help!!!!
by RangerSF5@aol.com

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 16:43:38 -0800
From: "Gene Alan Williamson C." <genewill@ordata.com>
To: K4IA@aol.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86253] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <200012140050.QAA32673@cobra.ordata.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>Some of them exhibit a sweet spot in 2 and maybe 3 different places on the
i>nductor selector.
>How do you tell what one is the right one?

Bob, I've been told to go with the LOWEST inductance that achieves a
correct match.

73 Gene N7YW <genewill@ordata.com>

President, La Musica Foundation
<http://www.lamusicafoundation.org>
Gift the Magic of Music to the Children of Honduras

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 20:21:34 -0500
From: Paul Womble <pwomble1@tampabay.rr.com>
To: elecraft@qth.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86254] Heil ProMicro Headset Special at AES
Message-ID: <3A38209E.C748EAC4@tampabay.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

AES has the Heil ProMicro headsets at a special \$49.99 price. Normal
price is \$110.00. Both the HC-4 and HC-5 mic elements are available.

This is a small, dual ear headset with boom mic. Should go very good
with the K2 or other ssb rigs. I have the big brother Pro Headset in
the shack with the HC-4 element and it works great. I plan to use the
Micro as the field/travel headphones. They are probably much to big for
backpacking...but motels, car camping, or field contesting should be a
good setup.

More info at: <http://www.heilsound.com>

Usuall disclaimers apply...just a satisfied customer.

73

Paul K4FB

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 20:23:37 -0500
From: hamjoel@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86255] CON-TESTING BLUES
Message-ID: <20001213.202626.-226217.2.hamjoel@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

hi fellow blues lovers...

Iffin u can got ur radio to key with ur computer, try the digital modes in contesting.... rtty can be a blast that lasts... and don't takes years of practice

psk will make ur day... without years of delay
and u have nice kits like the warbler u can build and enjoy... truly qrp inspired...

cw copy programs are gettin better and better and iffing u can build or buy a dsp dat would make them even betterer and ur limited cw copy meaux useful...

And u can engage in qso's at a faster clip than u normally would and copy along in ur head without any worry or strain... increasing ur ability to copy a bit faster...

and u gonna be meaux relaxed to build things and "spearment cause u got u self able to copy whatever comes out... of urn speaker...

and u gotem the warc bands to practice cw, psk, rtty on and most of the folk thair will qrs for u... cause there an't no reason to hurry along on these bands...

cw takes time and iffing u an't got or want to invest the time there be many options and many things to build... qso's can be very personal, contesting is a very impersonal thing by it's nature, as ur goal is to stomp the other guy and the utter guy is only useful for a contact (score) nuttin meaux... and the least time spent with a contact the better... hence the need for speed...

Seaux don't complain, just use ur brain and spend ur time where it is most enjoyable to u... however iffing u gonna cw contest, u do need to bring up ur cw speed... and that's gonna take time and continued practice...the obligation is yours not the utter fellows.... ok...

And for gosh sakes, remember ur self worth or status as a "real amateur" don't depend on ur cw skills... just soes u passed the test what was given to u...

now join me and others in qrp... true qrp... defined at the present time, as 5 watts or less output... and iffin u get a chance, build sumthin and learn a bit meaux about how things work...

Enjoy u self as its later than u think...

ke1la joel

in maine

getten sneauxed under...

ps

no offense intended or attempted and any flames will be met with incredibly intence response with no holds barred... I kneauxs where I is coming from and I will geaux for the jugular... so don't try to flame me... ok... be nice...

GET INTERNET ACCESS FROM JUNO!

Juno offers FREE or PREMIUM Internet access for less!

Join Juno today! For your FREE software, visit:

<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 01:30:40 -0600

From: w0av@juno.com

To: blinn@dm1.net

Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [86256] Re: Chirp... help

Message-ID: <20001214.013304.-579557.1.w0av@juno.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Blinn,

As an old hollow-state rig builder, I would say that the voltage drop as you described probably would not account for an objectionable chirp on a crystal controlled oscillator, such as you have, but it is a possibility.

Two other possibilities come to mind:

1. A crystal with poor activity. Also, some of the modern, small crystals cannot handle the relatively high currents flowing in a 6L6 oscillator operating at 300V, resulting in chirp, heating and finally fracture. The (in)famous QSL40 CW rig of the thirties

put out
uncommon to
wired a pilot
adjust the
satisfactory output

40 watts with a single 6L6, but it was not at all
burn a hole through the quartz crystal. We generally
lamp of 60mA or more in series with the crystal and
output tank for minimum glow consistent with
power and good sounding keying

2. The oscillator circuit may not have sufficient feedback
to ensure fast starting of the crystal. Depending
upon the
variable
and grid
until the chirp

decreases.

circuit in use, you could experiment by adding a small
(trimmer OK) capacitor (say 30pF) between the plate
of the 6L6. Start at minimum capacity and increase

Finally, you might try substituting another tube, such as a 6V6 or 6F6 if
you have them, or even another 6L6. If you can monitor the plate
current, watch for any abrupt drop after initial key down, which might
indicate a weak tube.

It wouldn't hurt to add bleeder current to improve the voltage
regulation, of course. You could parallel another resistor of a similar
value with the existing bleeder and see if that improves things.

As you may already have noticed, the plate tuning also affects the chirp
factor.

Excessive loading of the output tank will also cause chirp, as will
insufficient loading in certain cases.

Try the above suggestions and see what happens. Watch out for that 340V!

Sorry for the bandwidth, but Blinn's question brought back loads of fond
memories from the thirties.

72/73/74 de George/W0AV
SOC#101
Hamming it up since 1935

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 19:57:54 -0600

From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: w0av@juno.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86257] Re: Chirp... help
Message-ID: <3A382922.489F6D4C@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Changing to a tri-tet oscillator circuit will help a lot.

72/73, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas NETXQRP 6

Fairview, TX 30 mi NE Dallas in Collin county QRP-L 1373
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 55th year and it just keeps getting better!
Icom IC-756 PRO #02121 (9/00) Kachina #91900556 (12/99) IC-765 (6/90)

w0av@juno.com wrote:

>
> Blinn,
>
> As an old hollow-state rig builder, I would say that the voltage drop as
> you described probably would not account for an objectionable chirp on a
> crystal controlled oscillator, such as you have, but it is a possibility.

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 18:04:59 -0800
From: Stephen M Smith <sigcom@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86258] Re: Ceramic/porcelain crystal socket
Message-ID: <20001213.180500.-475037.5.sigcom@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Group,

This is a great list. I have a socket being sent to me. Thanks to everyone who responded.

73.....Steve, WB6TNL The Scrounger
Oxnard, CA USA "snort rosin"

GET INTERNET ACCESS FROM JUNO!
Juno offers FREE or PREMIUM Internet access for less!
Join Juno today! For your FREE software, visit:

<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 19:17:31 -0700
From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Cc: <DBirn61340@aol.com>
Subject: [86259] Contesting Hints
Message-ID: <B65D7BCA.426D%jamesd1@flash.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Dan - Lots of good hints have been posted here on contesting. Here are a couple I haven't seen yet.

The Spartan Sprints are excellent ways to hone your contesting skills. they offer much of the "thrill of the hunt" without the "pain of big contests. They are not too long at two hours, they occur every month, the results are posted within a week, there is no qro competition, little if any "cut throat" tactics, you can "run" stations with a mediocre station, and there is lots of activity. You can see your improvement from month to month. You can make changes in your station to see how it helps. I suggest them to people who want to get into contesting, but often have problems with the competition of traditional contests.

There are also good qrp contests sponsored by the various QRP organizations throughout the year that give a good flavor of contesting without the pressure of QRO stations.

I like the field competitions: FYBO, QRPTTF, BUBBA, Bumblebee, and QRPAF. In these contests the challenge is not only operating, but also setting up a competitive station in the field. If you can only put up so-so antennas at home, you can often find a field location that offers great radio sight lines.

VHF contesting is also much lower key than HF operating, at least around here. For many people, it is easier to set up a portable station at a rare grid square than it is in a rare state.

On the other hand if you operate the North American Sprints, you will get a good taste of competitive cnotesting. It makes SS look like a rag chew. The year I tried, I got 32 contacts in 2 hours of contesting. My head hurt. The winner got more than 400 QS0s!! It made my SS effort that year seem not so tough.

If you can improve your antennas, that will help immensely. I wrote a short

note on ways to improve your antennas. It will be posted on my web site soon.

--

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 18:17:06 -0800
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
To: blinn@dmi.net, QRP List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86260] Re: Chirp... help
Message-ID: <3A382DA2.8661DAC9@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

blinn wrote:

>
> Got the note pasted below from Will, W7BMO. He is just getting interested
> in CW again after many years and is building a tube transmitter. Does
> anyone have suggestions to help Will tame the chirp on his home-brew xmtr?
>
> Thanks, Bill - WA7TQK
>
> "Bill I have my powerful 7 watter ready to go except for one problem, I have
> a chirp in the c.w. tone. It's a 6l6 osc.drawing about 40 m.a., the power
> supply is a husky t.v. transformer cap. input filter [2] 20mfd with a filter
> choke between. Output volts 340 volts key up,290 volts key down. Bleeder
> resistor is 80k ohms.50 voltage drop seems a little much to me, but the
> transformer is big enough I think. I found a 150 volt v.r.reg. tube and
> regulated the screen voltage and that helped, but there is still some
> chirp.Grid 1 voltage is right on the money, I've been thinking about trying
> a100 ohm resistor in series in the cathode keying circuit. The rig is rock
> bound on 7.172.8. I haven't got the vxo to work yet either. I hate to put it
> on the air with a chirp. Any ideas?

I think the suggestions you've recieved are good ones. But I notice that Will has a crystal frequency of 7.1728 MHz. That is now in the 40 meter phone band, so he will not get many CW contacts there.

You might suggest a frequency around 7.040 or the qrp freq in the novice subband (7.110). Plus the new crystal would serve to eliminate the crystal as the cause of the chirp.

73, Phil W7OX

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 21:18:54 -0500 (EST)
From: Doug Faunt N6TQS +1-510-655-8604 <faunt@panix.com>
To: merryprankster@CWCOM.NET
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86261] Re: [86172] voltage doubling circuits
Message-ID: <200012140218.VAA17980@panix6.panix.com>

Hmm, since you're in the UK, perhaps a reference in the RSGB Radiocommunication Handbook would be more appropriate. Look at page 15-3 of the current edition, or equivalent pages in the Power Supply chapter of previous editions. Unfortunately, it doesn't explain how they work. The quadrupler is also called the Cockcroft-Walton multiplier. The ARRL Handbook does have a brief explanation of how they work, which you should read and understand.
73, doug

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 00:41:16 -0000
From: "M05aaa01" <merryprankster@CWCOM.NET>

voltage doubling circuits are the bane of my life this week!
I am trying to get 90 volts DC for a 1952 valve/ tube AC /DC radio.
I have a selection of circuits, voltage doubles trippers and the coccroft ladder (is that what its called) The trouble I am having is that after the first double it all stops.
I.E. I can get 24 volts DC from the 12 AC transformer by doubling it but cant double that to 48 Volts DC.
I have built 2 separate doubles they both work but not together.
It seems as I can double an AC voltage into a X2 DC voltage but when the voltage becomes DC it wont double. I am sure that I am missing something here, can any one please point me in the right direction!!! Many thanks from
Bob M5B0B

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 18:44:05 -0800
From: "W7TRX" <w7trx@mindspring.com>
To: <jamesd1@flash.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86262] Re: Contesting Hints
Message-ID: <019201c06577\$bab03e80\$982079a5@fkxug>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

James,

Thanks for the info.

Who sponsors the Spartan Sprints and where can I find schedules and rules?

Thank you,

Tracy, W7TRX

----- Original Message -----

From: James R. Duffey <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2000 6:17 PM
Subject: Contesting Hints

> Dan - Lots of good hints have been posted here on contesting. Here are a
> couple I haven't seen yet.
>
> The Spartan Sprints are excellent ways to hone your contesting skills.
they
> offer much of the "thrill of the hunt" without the "pain of big contests.
> They are not too long at two hours, they occur every month, the results
are
> posted within a week, there is no qro competition, little if any "cut
> throat" tactics, you can "run" stations with a mediocre station, and there
> is lots of activity. You can see your improvement from month to month. You
> can make changes in your station to see how it helps. I suggest them to
> people who want to get into contesting, but often have problems with the
> competition of traditional contests.
>

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 21:48:05 -0500
From: Sam Billingsley <SBillingsley@usaninc.com>
To: "Qrp1_Submit (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, "_AAAA_NOGA_onlist (E-mail)"
<nogaqrp@qth.net>, "Klqrp_Submit (E-mail)" <klqrp@applegate.org>
Cc: "Larry East [w1hue@arrl.net] (E-mail)" <w1hue@arrl.net>, "Stan K7SY Yarema (E-
mail)" <bg783@scn.org>

Subject: [86263] BFO output Isolation Daughter Board to enable PSK via My INDEX QR
P+ Rig SN928
Message-ID: <21B97A0171C2D4119E200002A50A53D417DF94@MAILSERVER2>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

This is a followup to my previous msg. I did build the daughter board that plugs in between the BFO cable and the Mixer input input connector on the top PCB.

Warning: this may not be necessary on your Rig so check first.

Using a 6dB resistor PAD into a J310 FET with an untuned output transformer FT37-61 6T primary and 2T secondary. The levels were such that I didn't have to put an output PAD behind the FET amp stage. Your results may vary. I used my Wes Hayward S.A. to check before and after levels. J310 had source grounded and the primary was connected to 12V via a 120ohm resistor and 0.1 decoupling cap. The FET was directly connected to the output of the 6 dB PAD. I know the purest will say I needed a 50 ohm load there but what the heck!

Now the AF output from the RX is back to normal levels as is the TX output levels. The signal looks very clean on the S.A.

The good news is the BFO shift is GONE and I can operate PSK in one Digipan window.

Here's a couple of PIXs of the daughter board. I used ugly construction and nothing except the levels in critical. I plan to completely shield the box but left it open for the PIX.

<http://ae4gx.home.mindspring.com/indexbfomod2.jpg>

<http://ae4gx.home.mindspring.com/indexbfomod.jpg>

Let me know if you try this.

Sam AE4GX

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Sam Billingsley

> Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2000 11:39 PM

> To: Qrpl_Submit (E-mail); _AAAA_NOGA_onlist (E-mail); K1qrp_Submit (E-mail)

> Cc: Larry East [w1hue@arrl.net] (E-mail); Stan K7SY Yarema (E-mail)

> Subject: Using the INDEX QRP+ or QRP++ on PSK31 **Solving a Rx/TX
> shift problem **
>
> Stan/K7SY and I have been exchanging emails regarding problems related to
> my specific INDEX QRP+ SN928 unit.
>
> My basic problem was when finding a station calling CQ and setting my TX
> cursor (using Digipan V1.5) my TX center frequency would be about 40-50 Hz
> off the other station hence he could not copy me without moving his RX
> cursor. With Digipan1.5 you have two RX windows (only one is active for
> TX) so you can compensate for the INDEX shift if you run a few tests with
> someone to determine your actual shift. You may have no problem at all so
> this may not apply to you.
>
> Since Stan and I have solved other INDEX problems in the past I am use to
> disassembling the INDEX (neat stacked boards with ribbon cable
> interconnections and other coax connections) so I was not afraid to take
> it apart to experiment.
>
> Using my ICOM756 has a RX monitor I probed the LO output and BFO outputs
> in RX and TX PSK operation (into dummy load of course). On my unit I found
> that the LO was stable between RX and TX changes (ie no freq. shift) but
> the BFO was in fact the culprit and displayed 40-50 Hz shift when going
> from RX to TX under PSK (SSB) conditions.
>
> Using the schematics published in my INDEX users manual (with component ID
> mask drawings too) I was able to find the BFO circuit and look closer to
> it. My unit has a single transistor colpitts oscillator with a 50 MHz xtal
> being pulled with 30pF trimmer in SSB and parallel forward conducting
> diode in CW mode. While my schematic showed the collector getting a +12v
> (direct battery) the unit had , in fact, been factory MODed to take +8.5V
> from regulator U7. U7 supplies voltage to the VCOs and all the CMOS PLL
> ICs thus involved will all critical freq. controlling circuits. I can tell
> you that a pulled 50 MHz xtal osc. if just looked at will change freq
> (just kidding but any slight voltage change will be noticable).
>
> I stiffened the BFO osc. voltage by placing a dedicated 78L08 with diode
> in GND lead to create 8.7V to BFO circuit. Same type circuit used in U7
> but now the BFO was isolated. Shift delta improved slightly now was down
> to about 20 Hz. Better but still too far out for RX and TX sync in same
> Digipan window. BTW earlier SN rigs have not have the U7 MOD.
>
> Stan suggested that later QRP++ had additional LP/PAD in between BFO
> output and the transformer and mixer points. So I added a 3 dB resistor
> PAD just to see the effect of BFO load isolation. Right idea now
> the Shift was about 6 Hz but still too far for syncing in one window.
>
> So I rebuilt the PAD into a 6 dB resistor PAD and the shift dropped to NIL

> or nearly so. Obviously since my BFO output drive was reduced by 6 dB to
> the RX and TX mixers my signal suffered but the load shift isolation point
> was demonstrated.
>
> The confirm the changes I checked into the North Georgia QRP Club PSK31
> net on 3581 kHz tonight and had not problem (except for my weak signal)
> chatting with NCS for a good period of time.
>
> At this point I plan to add an FET amp back between the PAD output and
> mixer input points. This should restore my normal TX levels and the RX
> signals should come back up.
>
> BTW while checking the rig's U7 (the main regulator for the 8.5V source) I
> noticed that the original resistor R30 supplying zener drive to the GND
> point of the regulator was still there so I removed it. I don't have the
> resistor in the added BFO osc. regulator either.
>
> Now I don't know if any of you have experienced the apparent shift problem
> with one of your INDEX rigs or not. But if you had trouble making contacts
> or getting anyone to reply to you CQs then I recommend that you check the
> shift in you rig.
>
> The simplest way is to use Digipan 1.5 and call CQ in one window and when
> someone replies and you can't decode them but see a good strong signal
> then set the 2nd Rx window on them and using the SWAP feature and the
> DISPLAY Freq. check the Hz differences between the two and you'll have a
> starting point. Just by clicking the two cursors you can setup the other
> guy hat answers you but you will need to specifically set the two window
> freq difference to first hear someone else calling and be able to respond
> and get them to answer without them having to touch their PSK software or
> rig RIT.
>
> BTW the INDEX has fixed SSB sideband selection that follows the original
> SSB freq. plan (ie LSB for 40 mtrs and below). I see no problem when I'm
> running LSB and the other guy is running USB other that specify freq.
> display differences.
>
> If you have an INDEX gathering dust then check it out for a neat all band
> PSK xcvr that takes up almost no space next to you PC and if you have a
> LAPTOP with sound capabilities you may have a good travelling PSK
> companion.
>
>
> Sam Billingsley AE4GX North Georgia QRP Club Atlanta, GA
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Stan Yarema <bg783@scn.org>

>
> >Hi Gang,
> > Is anyone out there using a QRP+ on PSK31 ?? I would think it would
> be
> >suitable but I haven't tried it. Orrrr..... Is anyone having problems
> >trying to get PSK31 up on a QRP+ ?? Is USB the only option ???
> >
> >Thanks and you can respond directly to me.
> >72 Stan, K7SY
>

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 20:53:21 -0600
From: Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86264] RE: [86098] The new contester blues
Message-ID: <01C06546.BB14EA00.nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Yep, lot of good suggestions.

One or two you may not have heard yet--

He who hesitates is lost. Answer quickly, send your call only once. I think most guys listen for maybe 2 seconds. (Two seconds is an eternity in a contest.) If you don't get through and it's not because a bigger signal beat you out, abandon that guy and move on to the next. If you don't get thru because a monster signal beat you out, you may want to hang in and call again, assuming the CQing station is an efficient operator. A QSO should only take about 15 seconds anyway.

Don't be shy. This mainly applies to non-QRP stations, but when you're looking for a place to call you can forget about a clear frequency--there's no such thing in a contest. Lest anyone get the wrong idea, I do listen before starting a CQ and I do use QRL?. But still, there are 500 stations in 70 khz and there are no totally clear frequencies. Contesters are polite, but everyone generally understands that there will be QRM.

72 es GL in TEST--Nick, WA5BDU

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 21:05:46 -0600
From: Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: Qrp-l Reflector <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86265] CUB FOX HUNT - N0IT
Message-ID: <3A38390A.90AEC767@swbell.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Is the band that bad for short skip or is everyone watching Gore and Bush speeches?

One hour of cqing got me three qso's. Didn't hear anyone else. If you were there please let me know. Maybe the qrn was too bad but I didn't hear anything. Didn't even hear VE7FAL when I checked up 7140.

Did work two west coast stations plus I listened down below and 4X4WN was 579 or better on 7002.

Oh well I'm going to go watch Bush. CU all later.

73 de Dave, N0IT

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 22:15:36 -0500 (EST)
From: n2go@arrl.net
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86266] FS Teflon xmas sale bulk offer
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.21.0012132202540.541-1000000@valhalla.v>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

If you are a part of a club or are just a hoarder, this might be for you. 10,000 feet !! Yep, almost two miles of silver plated stranded teflon coated wire in 1000 foot rolls. Special price \$200.

This is a limited time offer that will be first come first served with no choice of colors. You will never find it cheaper.

These are machine spooled rolls that may have some joins and may not be continuous. Most probably they are continuous. I won't be able to respool them at this price to find out :)

73,

Jim n2go

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 21:15:19 -0600
From: "Michael Melland" <badger@vbe.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86267] [Cub Fox] Anyone Heard the Foxii ?
Message-ID: <001401c0657c\$17c1c9a0\$db844d40@0019896170>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Wow.... except for really bad broadcast qrm are the bands this dead everywhere tonight?? I "thought" I heard the cub on 7.117 right at 0200 but with all the qrm and qsb he was way down in the noise floor and then faded away.... I also "thought" I heard Fred arnd 7.140.5 once but same thing. In fact I only found one cw qso that was easily heard so far tonight at 7.038 and nothing but bc qrm in the ssb portion of 40. 80 except for the "usual" megawatt ops is dead as is 20..... must be a solar flare ???

Mike

--

Michael Melland, W9WIS
Winneconne, Wisconsin USA - Grid EN54pc
QRP-L #1656 - QRPARCI #9875

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 22:15:28 -0500
From: "Tony Fegan VE3QF" <ve3qf@amsat.org>
To: <blinn@dmil.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86268] RE: Chirp... help
Message-ID: <LNBBKKB00JGKHIGEKKIJIEOKDAAA.ve3qf@amsat.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I would suggest moving the capacitor from the input of the power supply filter and putting it in parallel with the output capacitor. This makes a choke input filter which gives better regulation at a cost of lower output voltage.

Hope this helps

Tony Fegan VE3QF

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of blinn

Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2000 6:06 PM

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

Subject: Chirp... help

Got the note pasted below from Will, W7BMO. He is just getting interested in CW again after many years and is building a tube transmitter. Does anyone have suggestions to help Will tame the chirp on his home-brew xmtr?

Thanks, Bill - WA7TQK

"Bill I have my powerful 7 watter ready to go except for one problem, I have a chirp in the c.w. tone. It's a 6l6 osc.drawing about 40 m.a., the power supply is a husky t.v. transformer cap. input filter [2] 20mfd with a filter choke between. Output volts 340 volts key up, 290 volts key down. Bleeder resistor is 80k ohms. 50 voltage drop seems a little much to me, but the transformer is big enough I think. I found a 150 volt v.r.reg. tube and regulated the screen voltage and that helped, but there is still some chirp. Grid 1 voltage is right on the money, I've been thinking about trying a 100 ohm resistor in series in the cathode keying circuit. The rig is rock bound on 7.172.8. I haven't got the vxo to work yet either. I hate to put it on the air with a chirp. Any ideas?

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 21:20:18 -0600

From: Lew Paceley <lew@paceley.com>

To: sjolin@swbell.net, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [86269] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT

Message-ID: <018801c0657c\$cb6c5b00\$0332a8c0@roland.swbell.net>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi Dave,

Didn't hear a peep from you here in Dallas. I heard Fred for a just a couple minutes, just enough time to adjust my

power and bring up QRPDUPE and then he vanished...poof...bye, bye. Thought maybe a mass QSY had happened but I went up and down the band about 10 times and didn't hear anything. Well, I did hear a 6 and a 7, both weak. Thanks for trying.

72/73,
Lew
N5ZE

>
> Is the band that bad for short skip or is everyone
watching Gore and
> Bush speeches?
>
> One hour of cq'ing got me three qso's. Didn't hear anyone
else. If you
> were there please let me know. Maybe the qrn was too bad
but I didn't
> hear anything. Didn't even hear VE7FAL when I checked up
7140.
>
>
>
> 73 de Dave, N0IT

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 21:24:39 -0600
From: "Don Wines" <dwines@tyler.net>
To: <sjolin@swbell.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86270] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - N0IT
Message-ID: <00ab01c0657d\$658e0ee0\$bc9086d0@oemcomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dave wrote:
> Is the band that bad for short skip or is everyone watching Gore and
> Bush speeches?
>
> One hour of cq'ing got me three qso's. Didn't hear anyone else. If you
> were there please let me know. Maybe the qrn was too bad but I didn't
> hear anything. Didn't even hear VE7FAL when I checked up 7140.
>

> Did work two west coast stations plus i listened down below and 4X4WN
> was 579 or better on 7002.
>
> Oh well Im going to go watch Bush. CU all later.
>
> 73 de Dave, N0IT

Dave,

The band must be that bad! At least from East Texas. I've been tuning up and down for an 1 1/2 hours and heard only two stations in the entire Novice band. And they were weak. No foxii, no hounds, no nothin'.

72

Don, K5DW

QRP-L #2083 ARCI #10145 NETXQRP #3

k5dw@arrl.net or

dwines@tyler.net

See the NETXQRP Web Page at: www.netxqrp.org

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 22:27:17 -0500

From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>

To: "INTERNET:badger@vbe.com" <badger@vbe.com>, ".QRP-L Discussion Group" <QRP-L@Lehigh.edu>

Cc: ")W.D.(Doc)Lindsey/K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>

Subject: [86271] [Cub Fox] Anyone Heard the Foxii ?

Message-ID: <200012132227_MC2-BE93-43AA@compuserve.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset=ISO-8859-1

Content-Disposition: inline

Mike:

I finally bagged Fred, but never did hear N0IT at all. Lots of QRM seemingly all over 7.100 - 7.150. Anyone hear Dave?

72,

--Doc/K0EVZ

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 22:34:09 -0000

From: "Ken Kirkley" <ogbc@mindspring.com>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86272] NO Foxii in SC
Message-ID: <002101c06554\$cffa00a0\$4badf7a5@default>

Have not heard a peep here in SC. As a matter of fact I have not heard a single CW signal in the entire novice band...Don't know that I can remember it being so dead before...

73,
Ken/N04D

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 22:36:47 -0500
From: w2xn@juno.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86273] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT
Message-ID: <20001213.223653.-636257.1.w2xn@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Dave,

Don't go away yet, I can't even hear you. Been looking for 1-1/2 hrs for you and Fred. Maybe because you are watching Bush that I can't hear you. Been looking around 7117, and from 7100 through 7140 for you. Foreign QRM is bad here in FL, but I thought I could at least hear M0. Managed to get Fred up in Ont. at a 579 signal down here in FL. Where are you?

Fred W2XN w2xn@arrl.net
ARRL, ARES, Skywarn #POL-007, V E;
QRP: AR #233, QRP-L #1728, NJ #197, Zombie #709, FP #126

Qwest Long Distance -- 5 a minute with no monthly fee!
Visit [http://qwesteferral.com/r.jsp?a=@8GvJzmlmmVfVU541Lz2HA\\$\\$&x](http://qwesteferral.com/r.jsp?a=@8GvJzmlmmVfVU541Lz2HA$$&x)

On Wed, 13 Dec 2000 21:05:46 -0600 Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net> writes:

>
> Is the band that bad for short skip or is everyone watching Gore
> and
> Bush speeches?
>

> One hour of cqing got me three qso's. Didnt hear anyone else. If
> you
> were there please let me know. Maybe the qrn was too bad but I
> didnt
> hear anything. Didnt even hear VE7FAL when I checked up 7140.
>
> Did work two west coast stations plus i listened down below and
> 4X4WN
> was 579 or better on 7002.
>
> Oh well Im going to go watch Bush. CU all later.
>
> 73 de Dave, N0IT
>

GET INTERNET ACCESS FROM JUNO!

Juno offers FREE or PREMIUM Internet access for less!

Join Juno today! For your FREE software, visit:

<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 22:41:00 -0500

From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>

To: "INTERNET:sjolin@swbell.net" <sjolin@swbell.net>, ".QRP-L Discussion Group"
<QRP-L@Lehigh.edu>

Cc: ")W.D.(Doc)Lindsey/K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>

Subject: [86274] CUB FOX HUNT - N0IT

Message-ID: <200012132241_MC2-BE81-2205@compuserve.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset=ISO-8859-1

Content-Disposition: inline

Dave:

Well I hunted for you in vain. Bagged Fred okay, but never either you no=
r

any hunters. Could be that the band was long rather than short. I can
verity that there was horrendous broadcast QRM seemingly end to end.

Setup here =3D Yaesu FT-1000MP on dual diversity reception. Tried three
antennas, just in case.

72,

--Doc/K0EVZ

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 20:45:05 -0700
From: "bob baxter" <rbaxter@cybertrails.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86275] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - N0IT
Message-ID: <008901c06580\$40be3380\$d1142aa2@bobbaxte>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dave, You came into SE Az 559 about 0230 for about a minute. By the time I got the split set up and gave a couple calls you faded away.
Bob Baxter AA7EQ
Bisbee, Az.

>
>Is the band that bad for short skip or is everyone watching Gore and
>Bush speeches?
>
>

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 20:50:39 -0600
From: Earl Murphy <earlmurf@telusplanet.net>
To: QRP-L <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Cc: QRP-CANADA <qrp-canada@lists.gpfn.sk.ca>
Subject: [86276] (CUB FOXII) BOOM!! DOUBLE BARREL
Message-ID: <3A38357F.6DB611CA@telusplanet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Two Shots, had them both: Fred (VE3FAL) and Dave (N0IT)---Great Job fellows at dragging me out....Luck would have it that I skinned you early...Half hour into the Hunt, and you both disappeared....The BC heterodyne was just unreal...Hope to catch you both again...Tnx for the fun....and the pelts.

72.....Earl (VA6RF)

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 23:07:25 -0500
From: Paul Womble <pwomble1@tampabay.rr.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86277] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - N0IT
Message-ID: <3A38477D.1E743D8C@tampabay.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Fred was an honest 599 for quite some time...at 0200z we could only tell he was there but came right up in just a few minutes.

We heard no peep from Dave here in the swamp...many antlers were listening!

73
Paul K4FB

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 22:12:04 -0600
From: "David Bixler" <qrp@netins.net>
To: <sjolin@swbell.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86278] RE: CUB FOX HUNT - N0IT
Message-ID: <IJEEJMKECFBFMJOPDBJNOEJKCBAA.qrp@netins.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Dave:

Yes, the band must have been long again tonight.
I heard you weakly for a couple of minutes and
called you once, but you were gone in a flash never
to be heard again.

Fred was not audible at all here in SW Missouri.
Weird conditions.

Oh well, there's always tomorrow night.....

Thanks and 72,

Dave

David Bixler W0CH - VK2IQX

Seneca, Missouri
<http://www.qsl.net/w0ch/> <mailto:w0ch@arrl.net>

QRP: Little Radios, Big Fun!

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 22:24:35 -0600
From: "TC Dufresne" <tdufres@radiks.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86279] Fox: Got him!
Message-ID: <020601c06585\$e2e9c200\$6ff31dce@server>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Was listening a bit (Just before Pres-Elect Bush's speech) around 7.141MHz, lots of howls and squeals. Heard Fred (VE3FAL) but I don't think he heard me. Figured, hmm, maybe split? So I tried my handy dandy RIT on my trusty HW-8, and land sakes, got him with my first shot! Now if I can only remember how I did it, did I "listen high and transmit low, or did I...."
Thanks fer the pelt Fred!
Tom
KC0GXX

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 23:11:52 -0500
From: preacher102677@juno.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86280] Need a quick listen...
Message-ID: <20001213.231154.-193963.18.preacher102677@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"MAC" (AF4PS) and I have been trying to QSO for the past "cupla" days, but I think I'm having antenna issues. Is there anyone in GA who can monitor for like the next fifteen minutes (APX 11:15-11:30 EST) and also for the next few nights about 9:30 to 11:00 est. I need to know if my signal is going anywhere! I'm usually around 7120-7130, don't know exacts.
Thx n advance!
72!

LIC,
G. Brandon Hoyt --"Known far and Wide as the Great Pumpkin."
Photographer, Philosopher, Preacher, Pirate, Poet.
DE KG4GVL Clear.

GET INTERNET ACCESS FROM JUNO!
Juno offers FREE or PREMIUM Internet access for less!
Join Juno today! For your FREE software, visit:
<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 22:05:18 -0600
From: "Jerry Scherkenbach" <jerrys@execpc.com>
To: <Bcieslak@ra.rockwell.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86281] Re: Go get Da FOX N9AW
Message-ID: <012d01c06588\$10716b40\$a48bcfa9@Pjerrys>

Between Bruce, Doc and Brian this is starting to sound like a lovefest.
Stop already, you're making me blush. I've just been lucky over the years
to find a great group of ham friends who have encouraged my 'bad' behavior.
Believe me it didn't take much encouragement.

What I enjoy most about our great hobby is the comraderie. Its evident at
club meetings, swapfests, field day, QRP field outings and other ham related
gatherings. I find it is especially present at QRP gatherings like FDIIM at
Dayton. And, here on QRP-L, the same friendships are extended and new ones
formed. I guess thats what makes this hobby so special, its really about
the personal relationships we form, not necessarily the equipment, antennas,
etc.

Thanks for your kind words.

72
Jerry N9AW

----- Original Message -----
From: <Bcieslak@ra.rockwell.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2000 10:58 AM
Subject: Re: Go get Da FOX N9AW

> Jerry is also the President of the QRP Cheeseheads ARC and is grooming a
> group of contest machine's like himself. Us fellow cheesheads are

> always gunning for him and hopefully improving our skill in the process.
> He's one of those coaches who pushes us into the uncomfortable zones of
> CW speeds and crowded pileups. (50 push ups if you miss a pelt) But you
> sure come away feelin that you contributed and he's always there with an
> atta-boy when your done.
>
> I had the pleasure of working with Jerry at the Field Day operations of
> another Club we belong too for the last 20 years and I tell you it is
> amazing.
> He can dig out calls I can't even hear or pull out an exchange when I can
> even discern dots and dashes and I have a code proficiency certificate at
> 30 WPM.
> I've often accused him of having Buckmaster interfaced to his radio some
> how.
>
> Its not all skill though...Jerry always make sure he has the best
> technology at his fingertips at all times and he knows how to squeeze all
> the performance out of
> the features in his rig. Sitting in his operating chair is a bit unnerving
> and touching the paddles of his keyer is like a kid finding his dad's AK47
> still switched on full auto. Before you realize it you've fired off 50
> dits...but I've occassionally heard that same keyer cranked down to 5 WPM.
>
> N9AW's shack adorns quite a collection of QSL's from countries I can't
even
> find on a map. If you look a little closer all the callsigns end in 'AW'.
> Coincidence, I think not. A collection of soon to be built kits sits on
the
> work bench. I wonder if that K1 will hold up under a 1000 Q Field Day
> Operation next summer.
>
> If you want to see what the Cheesesheads and our fearless leader look like
> check out the NQ9RP web page at
> <http://www.qsl.net/nq9rp>
>
> 73,
> from the frozen tundra...
>
> Brian AE9K
>

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 20:48:16 -0800 (PST)
From: Dan Reynolds <bcdlr@yahoo.com>
To: qrp-L Reflector <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [86282] Speaker-Mike w/Epiphyte 3
Message-ID: <20001214044816.25434.qmail@web2301.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Can someone explain in a little more detail how to make an Icom type speaker mike work with the Epiphyte 3 kit. I'm done except for final checkout and installing the PA. I'm kind of stalled here. I didn't understand how the instructions said to do this.

Hey, has anybody tried using an Epiphyte for PSK?

Dan Reynolds - KB9JL0

Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Shopping - Thousands of Stores. Millions of Products.
<http://shopping.yahoo.com/>

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 20:58:26 -0800
From: "blinn" <blinn@dmf.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86283] Re: CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT
Message-ID: <001b01c0658a\$80100680\$45ade5d8@blinn>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dave, I for one worked very hard to locate you and could not hear a peep here in North Idaho. Did work VE3FAL early on though.

Thanks for the effort. This stuff is addicting.. (Hope you didn't get too "Bushed" or "Gored" either, for that matter.) :)

Bill - WA7TQK

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 23:17:56 -0600
From: Steve Bauder <sbauder@win.bright.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86284] 160 QRP!?!

Message-ID: <3A385804.7323C0D3@win.bright.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I had so much fun working 160 with 5 watts and a lousy antenna last winter that I decided to put up a full size dipole at 75' for this winters' 160 adventures. I've listened on and around 1810 for a couple hours every evening since Saturday (the day I got the antenna up) but I haven't heard a single QRP operator! I've worked several QRO stations, so I think everything is working OK. Anybody hanging out around 1810 between 0300 and 0500 UTC? I'll be listening the next couple evenings while I'm melting solder finishing up my MS-15 from Steve Weber.

Steve Bauder, NX9Z

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 21:28:25 -0800

From: "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>

To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [86285] Golden Fox Thursday night

Message-ID: <002801c0658e\$af488220\$d2d3fc9e@oemcomputer>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen of the fox hunting community.

As we have previously announced, Thursday evening (local, Friday morning UTC), the curtain rises on the gala opening of our most popular play, FOX. This event marks the triumphant return of the Golden Fox to this stage after several years away. He will play the role of FOX, a role he has made famous in years past.

Curtain time is 0200 UTC, and seats are going fast. We encourage you to get your tickets while they are still available.

The Golden Fox enjoys interacting with his audience, so he asks that rows immediately in front of the stage be kept open. This way he can see the entire audience, and be seen by all. He suggests seats between rows 7041

and 7044 for the greatest enjoyment of the play.

We wish you a most enjoyable theater experience, and hope to see each of you in the audience.

A good evening to you all.

The Management
Forty Meter Playhouse

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 21:30:05 -0800
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
To: bcdlr@yahoo.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86286] Re: Speaker-Mike w/Epiphyte 3
Message-ID: <3A385ADD.B6E07127@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dan Reynolds wrote:

>
> Can someone explain in a little more detail how to
> make an Icom type speaker mike work with the Epiphyte
> 3 kit. I'm done except for final checkout and
> installing the PA. I'm kind of stalled here. I
> didn't understand how the instructions said to do
> this.
>

Wow .. that kit goes back a ways; I had to read a 1994 QRPP to get info on it. Why are they popping up now?

> Hey, has anybody tried using an Epiphyte for PSK?
>

I don't know much about the EP-3. I would guess the main issue might be frequency stability. The QRP PSK-20/40/80 series are crystal controlled, avoiding this issue.

73, Phil W7OX

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 21:36:13 -0800
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
To: n2go@arrl.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86287] Re: FS Teflon xmas sale bulk offer
Message-ID: <3A385C4D.9E923E1@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Jim,

Does that price include shipping (an expense which might be non-trivial for 10,000 ft of wire)? What gauge is the stranded wire? And what diameter are the spools (a storage question). I assume this wire would be suitable for antennas .. yes?

Finally, I'm having trouble visualizing "silver plated stranded teflon coated wire". Am I correct that this is copper(?) which is silver plated, then stranded in the usual way and then has a Teflon outer insulation?

73, Phil W7OX

n2go@arrl.net wrote:

>
> If you are a part of a club or are just a hoarder, this might be for you.
> 10,000 feet !! Yep, almost two miles of silver plated stranded teflon
> coated wire in 1000 foot rolls. Special price \$200.
> This is a limited time offer that will be first come first served with no
> choice of colors. You will never find it cheaper.
> These are machine spooled rolls that may have some joins and may not be
> continuous. Most probably they are continuous. I won't be able to respool
> them at this price to find out :)
>
> 73,
>
> Jim n2go

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 01:25:50 -0500
From: Kenneth Hoglund <hoglund@wfu.edu>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86288] CUB FOX HUNT--shut tight!
Message-ID: <3A3867EE.7F8BF29A@wfu.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I kept telling my son that with two cubs in the hunt, I was bound to get one. Especially since I had nabbed Dave the last time he was on the run.

After miscellaneous honey-dos, fired up the rig a little before 300 utc and nutin; no cw anywhere that I could hear. Rechecked everything from antenna connection to every movable thing on the front panel that could have a setting. Still nutin. Panic set in--maybe some component blew and I can no longer receive cw! How to test (sweat now pours from the brow); tuned down into Extra-land and blessed assurance, heard some soul firing away at 40+ wpm. Back into the Novice bands for the Foxii--still nutin. No "cq fox", no cw at all! After 30 minutes of dialing up and down through the screeches and howls, still nutin.

Glad to see others had the same experience. The band really let us down this evening, but Monday is not far away.....

Ken KG4FGC

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 09:39:44 +0100
From: "Chris Wagner" <mm1esg@compuserve.de>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86289] Has anyone added a VFO to sseng.com's ARK CW trcvr?
Message-ID: <011701c065ac\$362134a0\$8b7c30d9@chriswag>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hiya,

S&S sells a VFO unit, but use with the ARK isn't documented. Any idears are appreciated and advice welcome. I have the ARK20 and ARK30. Thank you and have fun!

72,
Chris MM1ESG

M.E.G.S. #700

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 09:56:35 +0100
From: "Chris Wagner" <mm1esg@compuserve.de>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86290] WTB: monoband wire antennas trimmed to 50 ohm for 17/20/30m
Message-ID: <011801c065ac\$370c30e0\$8b7c30d9@chriswag>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

17m rig: MFJ
20m rigs: ARK / SW+ / ...
30m rig: ARK

In addition, "Codemaster 5" or other Win95 CW program is needed. Kindly
reply direct. Thank you! 72, Chris

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 04:35:51 -0800
From: "Trevor Jacobs" <fxtech@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>,
<mm1esg@compuserve.de>
Subject: [86291] Re: Has anyone added a VFO to sseng.com's ARK CW trcvr?
Message-ID: <00f701c065ca\$659c11a0\$3f14f4d8@tjacobs>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Chris,

Just out of curiosity, how do you like the ARK series radios? I had
never heard of them until your posting. They don't seem to have a ton of
info on the web site, pictures would be nice too. The TAC series rigs sound
real nice, very similar to the DSW series from Small Wonder Labs.

On your question about adding a VFO, after reading the specs, it sounds
to me like they come with a direct digital synthesized VFO tunable with a
thumb wheel. Did you need more coverage than designed in? The thumb wheel
would make tuning around the band for signals kind of a pain in the butt
though. One thing that you could probably do is to convert it to using a
rotary encoder. This shouldn't be super hard, Basically you'd use the
encoder into some logic or a microcontroller to count up/down to emulate the
thumb wheel switch. If you used a microcontroller such as a pic or 80C51,
you could also support a digital display of some kind. Anyway, just a couple
of ideas, hope it helps. Take care...

73

Trev

KG6CYN

----- Original Message -----

From: Chris Wagner <mm1esg@compuserve.de>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2000 12:39 AM

Subject: Has anyone added a VFO to sseng.com's ARK CW trcvr?

> Hiya,

>

> S&S sells a VFO unit, but use with the ARK isn't documented. Any idears
> are

> appreciated and advice welcome. I have the ARK20 and ARK30. Thank you and
> have fun!

>

> 72,

> Chris MM1ESG

>

> M.E.G.S. #700

>

>

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 05:37:38 -0700 (MST)

From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>

To: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>

Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [86292] Re: [Cub Fox] Anyone Heard the Foxii ?

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10012140534550.832-100000@cannac.ampr.org>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Doc, I Bagged Fred who was weak but no esp, but then looked for Dave and never found him. Lots of bc noise and not real sure where to look. But I did look from 7105 to 7130 with no luck.

On Wed, 13 Dec 2000, Wilford D. Lindsey wrote:

> Mike:

>

> I finally bagged Fred, but never did hear N0IT at all. Lots of QRM
> seemingly all over 7.100 - 7.150. Anyone hear Dave?

>

> 72,
> --Doc/K0EVZ
>
>

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 07:54:06 EST
From: BruceAA5B@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86293] report: VP5 on QRP
Message-ID: <74.5e1cd40.276a1cee@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

On my recent contest expedition to VP5 (VP5K in both the ARRL 160 and 10 meter contests), I did a couple of QRPish things.

First, I tried to work as many QRPers as possible for 2-way QRP QSOs on 7040 a few evenings in a row. WB5QYT was the first in the log, followed by a few dozen others. I was using 5 watts to a 2-element yagi 60 feet over the ocean on the north shore of North Caicos island, so signals were pretty good both ways. Unbelievably good sometimes -- it's a fantastic QTH. North Caicos, part of the Turks and Caicos group, is midway between the Bahamas and Puerto Rico, just a little north of Haiti.

Second, I worked a bunch of folks all over the world on 10 meters using a vertical wire dipole taped to a 20-ft fiberglass fishing pole on the beach. In comparison tests, it was only about 12 dB weaker than a 4-element yagi at 50 feet, but 22 dB cheaper. Not a bad trade-off! If I'd had my 33-ft mast with me, I would've tried this on other bands, too. Next time.

See you in the FYBO in January -- but from cold New Mexico instead.

-Bruce AA5B

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 08:11:00 -0500
From: Tim O'Rourke <TO'Rourke@KaiserFT.com>
To: "'qrp-1@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86294] Corrosion on aluminum
Message-ID: <B157350CEE0BD411867B00A0C922E5D407D6F2@MAIL>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

The ultimate corrosion protection as alodine or chemfilm. In aerospace we protect aluminum to aluminum interfaces that require very low resistance and on corrosion with a treatment called alodine.

Unlike anodize that oxidizes aluminum and creates a high resistance barrier, alodine is a chemical treatment that enhances conductivity and prevents corrosion. Trade name commonly used is Chemfilm. The treatment turns the aluminum to a golden color and will prevent corrosion for years and enhance conductivity.

Tim O'Rourke KG4CHX K2 875, K1's 21 and 22 , Ft-817, etc

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 08:23:45 EST
From: W0rw@aol.com
To: sbauder@win.bright.net, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86295] Re: 160 QRP!?!
Message-ID: <d.d9b2bf1.276a23e1@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Steve.

Now that you have a big antenna,
Listen for the 'RW' beacon QRP on 480 kHz CW
Late at night sending RW on CW...

Thanks

Paul w0rw@aol.com

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 08:39:36 -0500 (EST)
From: n2go@arrl.net
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86296] Re: teflon xmas bulk sale?
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.21.0012140822370.1466-1000000@valhalla.v>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Popular questions:

Shipping ups extra.The range is from \$12.50 to \$39.93 for approx 50# in continental US You can get the rates at the UPS website or

If you pickup,it (shipping) is free.

If you pickup with out using my box...knock off 75 cents from the price :))

Give me your zip code and I will look it up at the UPS site.

How much space will it take up (10,000 feet)

It all fits in a one cubic foot box.

At one time I had enough to make a direction wire connection to Rochester :)

The wire gauge is 22 and 24 AWG.

Antenna wire ? Many have used it for construction, radials, repair,stealth antennas, gutter antennas, portable antennas, attic antennas, condo antennas, and hotel antennas, baluns, feed lines etc. It is limited only by your imagination.

73,

Jim n2go

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 08:36:39 -0500
From: hamjoel@juno.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86297] RE VOLTAGE DOUBLING
Message-ID: <20001214.083641.-277141.1.hamjoel@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

BOB

Iffin u got u self the space... why not buy two power xformers... and u can do two things heah..

u can parallel the primiries and series the seconday... doubling ur output voltage or u can connect one primary winding to ur power sourse and then connect the two secondary windings together(don't short circuit

them... hee hee) and then rectify the second primary winding which should start off at 110 volts...

I realize it an't very technical but it works, I kneaux from personal experience...

now iffin u parallel the primaries and series the secondaries u gotta check and make sure the secondaries are aiding each other and not canceling each other out... so iffin ur voltage is low, reverse one secondary or one primary winding and u should got u self double voltage outputs...

used to do that to got high voltage from tv xformers for plate voltage on them tube riggies... 600v secondaries turned into 1200v secondaries mighty fast... :-)

kella joel

in maine

thinking double

GET INTERNET ACCESS FROM JUNO!

Juno offers FREE or PREMIUM Internet access for less!

Join Juno today! For your FREE software, visit:

<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 07:55:14 -0600

From: Dave Sjolin <sjolin@swbell.net>

To: Qrp-l Reflector <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [86298] CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT

Message-ID: <3A38D141.35B21B95@swbell.net>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Thanks for all the followup reports and thanks for trying. It felt good to know that people were looking. I keep checking the calendar to make sure it was the right night and that they hadnt rescheduled the Super Bowl or something.

It was also good to know that there was nothing wrong with my receiver. I was beginning to worry that maybe there were thirty guys calling amidst all the qrn and broadcast qrm who were wondering if I needed a hearing aid. :-)

One hour of nearly constant cqing netted three qso's. W6ABC at 0200z. VA6FR a little later follwoed by NF0R (100mw about three miles away). Didnt hear anyone else. I started at 7.117 and operated there for maybe 25 minutes. Then spent most of the time at 7.111 which seemed a little clearer. I even called cq a couple times on 7.140 when I heard no

activity there. At 0300z I pulled the plug.

Apparently the skip was quite long last night. Two of the the three stations worked were on the west coast. Typically, at 0200z Im more likely to hear tons of Texans and Floridians than the west coast. DX also seemed strong at the bottom of the band. 4X4WN was 579 or better on 7002.

Was so desparate at one point that I thought of turning on the amp. Then I realized, no, not only would that be unsporting but in the Novice band it would be illegal. Oh well after the rush of the pileup, a little silence teaches you humility.

Thanks for listening. CU all later. Log will follow later.

73 de Dave, N0IT

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 09:49:26 EST
From: DBirn61340@aol.com
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86299] The new contester blues
Message-ID: <f3.5965916.276a37f6@aol.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I would like to thank everyone who has provided all of the wonderful advice on improving as a contester. What a wonderful resource this list is!

73
Dan
AD6JY

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 09:57:27 -0500 (GMT+5)
From: wd9eyb@butler.qrp.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86300] QRP Picture Taking
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.1001214095238.9763A-1000000@butler.qrp.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I'm thinking of writing an article on how I take QRP pictures.
One bad thing about this idea is that it will reveal that I
don't really know what I'm doing.

Is there interest in such an article?

I remember awhile back there was a CFP for FDI~~M~~.

Is FDI~~M~~ still looking for presentations?

Would QRP picture taking been an appropriate presentation?

Thanks,

Jim, WD9EYB

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 09:49:35 -0500
From: "AI2Q Alex" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>
To: <blinn@dmi.net>
Cc: "QRP-L (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86301] RE: Chirp... help
Message-ID: <000001c065dd\$1410d880\$5c32a7d0@ispchannel.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Bill:

On my little "AWA-compatible" vintage 6L6 rig, I use a VR tube to regulate the screen voltage. That does the trick, as noted on my schematic for it at http://www.qsl.net/n6ev/7awk_6l6.jpg.

Vy 73, AI2Q, Alex in Kennebunk, Maine QRP-L 687 .-.-.

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of blinn
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2000 6:06 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Chirp... help

Got the note pasted below from Will, W7BM0. He is just getting interested in CW again after many years and is building a tube transmitter. Does anyone have suggestions to help Will tame the chirp on his home-brew xmtr?

Thanks, Bill - WA7TQK

"Bill I have my powerful 7 watter ready to go except for one problem, I have

a chirp in the c.w. tone. It's a 6l6 osc.drawing about 40 m.a., the power supply is a husky t.v. transformer cap. input filter [2] 20mfd with a filter choke between. Output volts 340 volts key up, 290 volts key down. Bleeder resistor is 80k ohms. 50 voltage drop seems a little much to me, but the transformer is big enough I think. I found a 150 volt v.r.reg. tube and regulated the screen voltage and that helped, but there is still some chirp. Grid 1 voltage is right on the money, I've been thinking about trying a 100 ohm resistor in series in the cathode keying circuit. The rig is rock bound on 7.172.8. I haven't got the vxo to work yet either. I hate to put it on the air with a chirp. Any ideas?

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 10:15:30 -0500 (EST)
From: "John L. Sielke" <w2agn@pobox.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86302] FT301SD ?
Message-ID: <XFMail.001214101530.w2agn@pobox.com>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
MIME-Version: 1.0

Yesterday somebody listed a FT301SD for sale. I meant to reply, but got distracted (senior moment). I lost the original post. If still FS, please email me.

Thanks,

John W2AGN

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 10:11:30 -0500
From: "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
To: "'qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86303] Re: The new contesters blues
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CC016B9BED@kahless.arrl.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

The worse technique I've found is to use packet/internet to find stations. This almost insures that you have to fight your way through a pileup.

A clever technique that I've used is to do a propagation analysis from the DX stations point of view. Sometimes, it is easy to work a DX station because he is too weak to generate a pileup, even though propagation isn't

optimum for the path. On the other hand, even if the propagation is optimum, maybe some other area of the world has a pipeline, so pileup breaking is unlikely. It is quite common to hear a big station running a huge pileup, and two or three smaller stations in the same semi-rare country waiting for answers. Guess which stations I work first?

--Zack Lau W1VT (who spent years studying propagation from the middle of the Pacific)

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 08:40:02 -0700
From: "Crandall, Chuck/ATL" <CCrandal@CH2M.com>
To: "'qrp-1@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86304] Contesting Hints
Message-ID: <87520643E9D8D311A5F300508B92D8F3B20BCA@savannah.ch2m.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

As a new tester, I have found this thread to be extremely helpful. Thanks to all who have taken the time to post -- its been worth at least several thousand points in the next event! An additional idea is to take a thorough, advance look at the points formula for the contest of interest and develop an operating strategy based on that.

For example, the scoring for the recent ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint was based on QSO points, SPCs per band, power multiplier, and bonus points per band for use of a homebrew (or kit) rig. The approach to maximizing score for that event was to use a hb/kit rig to operate multiple bands with the lowest possible power. For example, a Sierra on 3 bands (say 10, 15, and 20) was worth 15,000 bonus points (equal to a whole bunch of QSOs x SPCs x power multiplier) and operation on 40 and 80 would have further sweetened the pot with an additional 10,000 points.

In the same event, the power multiplier for 1 to 5 w was 7 but, it was 10 for 250 mw to 1 w, and 15 for less than 250 mw. 5w does nothing that can't be done at 900 mw and the final score will be considerably (+/- 40%) better for the very same operations effort. Actually, in this QRP event less than 250 mw was worth a try-- its amazing what can be done at that power level and the points compound very quickly indeed.

Another idea is to learn EZNEC or a similar antenna modelling program. Use it to optimize even the simplest wire antenna and fit it into an overall strategy that involves aiming available RF to the location(s) where there is

the greatest potential for SPCs. Knowledge of the main lobe direction(s) and take-off angles for different bands also provides insight into where to spend most of the available operating time all other things being equal. It further provides ideas on possible "antenna" tweaks prior to the event (including the need to use ladderline for non-resonant antennas).

All the ARCI events are fantastic and the experiences there put one on very sound footing for the bigger contests.

Again, many thanks to all and best wishes for the Holiday Season, Chuck
(AF4PP)

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 10:50:26 -0500
From: Tom Mc <tjmc@erols.com>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86305] OT: Tube ID
Message-ID: <3A38EC42.C4CA602B@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I found a tube with a partial curcuit....

Trying to ID the tube so I can fiq out what the curcuit was.... Then if anyone wants it for use so be it.
(Also ceramic socket)

RCA Radiotron electron tube , 4 pin tube 4" tall, plastic bottom, date stamp of jul 22 1948 on one side, the number 30 in an octagon outline, other marking looks like 8-09

Replys direct to keep down band width.

Tks in advance
Tom aa2vk

--

```
*****
*   Member of NORCAL, NJQRP, LIQRP, SGCI   *
*               K2 #1213                     *
*   Personal web page : www.erols.com/tjmc   *
```

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 11:00:26 -0500
From: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
To: <w3irz@att.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86306] Re: multi-band antenna
Message-ID: <200012141600.LAA30239@atlnet.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

On 12/12/00 22:20, Mike Branca at w3irz@att.net wrote:

>First make sure that you are not using a 4:1 balun. If a balun is used it
>should be a 1:1.

Good advice. But a 4:1 balun will work, it just make not be transforming
4:1 in the presence of reactive impedances.

> Actually the balun is not even necessary and you should
>just go ahead and connect the 450 ohm line to the tuner output. All the
>"experts" will now jump in and say this is all wrong but just ignore them
>and have a lot of fun on ten meters.

I wouldn't recommend this. Why? Because you will be putting unbalanced
currents into a balanced line. This means that the transmission line
stops being a transmission line and becomes an antenna.

>BTW I have installed two commercial HF
>ALE radio systems and the engineers plans were to connect one side of the
>line to ground and the other side to the tuner output. They worked just
>fine.

Define "worked". Yea, it may have radiated just fine, but it may have put
transmitted signal where you didn't want it.

>It seems that hams are the ones who are hung up with having to use
>baluns and that is probably due to the balun advertisements where hams are
>told that they are certain to get TVI if a balun is not used.

TVI may or may not be an issue, but feedline radiation is likely to be
unwanted.

Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net
Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
 -- Wilbur Wright, 1901

Date: Wed, 13 Dec 2000 21:27:17 -0600
From: "Tim Billingsley KD5CKP" <kd5ckp@yahoo.com>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86307] Concentricity
Message-ID: <002001c0657e\$1c1b26c0\$ba511e26@timkd5ck>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I am looking for a formula that will give me a final answer
in inches to the following problem:

Well let me throw in a few variable names first:
Diameter of "Line1"
Diameter of "Line2"
Diameter of "Stud" <---<<< the center mounting hardware. Bolt, Screw, Axle,
Whatever ..
"Length" of lines 1 & 2 as they should be equal or close enough that it will
not be imperative.

If I begin by winding lines 1 and 2 concentrically, in a continuous spiral
one line on top of the other, what formula would I use to determine the
overall diameter or radius of the finished product.

This may be child's play and I have just gotten too old to "figger it out"

73 to U Gurus of the wire arts.

Tim Billingsley KD5CKP
Home - <http://www.qsl.net/kd5ckp/>
NMECC - <http://www.qsl.net/nmecc/>
MS ARRL - <http://www.arrlmiss.org/>
OBARC - <http://www.qsl.net/obarc/>
CARA - <http://www.qsl.net/w5gwd/>

Do You Yahoo!?
Get your free @yahoo.com address at <http://mail.yahoo.com>

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 11:37:38 -0500 (GMT+5)
From: wd9eyb@butler.qrp.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: wvara@butler.qrp.com
Subject: [86308] PSK-80 Warbler Group Building Session
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.1001214113012.12235D-100000@butler.qrp.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I would like to host another PSK-80 Warbler group building session this Saturday, 12-16-2000, afternoon at 1:00 PM in Terre Haute, IN. If you would like to attend email wd9eyb@arrl.net or call 812.238.0584. I can't host one on the 23rd, but I could host one on the 30th. See <http://butler.qrp.com/~wd9eyb/psk80/> to see pictures from a previous building session and to see my Warbler.

Jim, WD9EYB

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 12:00:02 -0500
From: Ken Newman <N2CQ@citnet.com>
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu, njqrp@njqrp.org
Subject: [86309] Dog House Sprint Logs Needed
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20001214120002.007fad30@mail.citnet.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Dog House operators,
Need the remaining logs for the sprint Folks. You may have worked more stations you would think to be higher on the results. Sorry we didn't promote the sprint as much as we should have but next year we will, I promise! Please send your log in to N2CQ@ARRL.NET or:
Ken Newman, N2CQ
81 Holly Drive
Woodbury, NJ 08096

Thanks for your participation. The results will appear on the 20th or about then but your log would be appreciated.

72 de

Ken Newman - N2CQ
Woodbury, NJ
N2CQ@ARRL.NET

== QRP CONTEST CALENDAR ==
<http://www.njqrp.org/data/contesting.html>

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 08:58:04 -0800
From: Bill Jones <kd7s@psnw.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86310] LM386 replacement experiments
Message-ID: <3A38FC1C.65F928B@psnw.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Friends,

I have been playing with various integrated circuit audio amplifiers as a replacement for the LM386. By replacement I don't mean pin for pin but rather another device altogether. I have had good results with the Phillips TDA7052 (available from NTE as an NTE-7051). This comes as an 8-pin dip package and is designed for battery operation. It is rated at 1 watt output into an 8 ohm load with a 3-15 volt power supply. The gain is fixed at 40 dB. You can download the spec sheet (in .pdf format) from:
<http://www-us.semiconductors.com/pip/TDA7052/N2>

Has anybody else played with the TDA7052? If so, have you found any bugs, problems or caveats?

--

Bill Jones - KD7S <><
Sanger, California
<http://www.psnw.com/~kd7s/>

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 11:33:07 -0600
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: mm1esg@compuserve.de
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86311] Re: WTB: monoband wire antennas trimmed to 50 ohm for 17/20/30m
Message-ID: <3A390453.EE9B37D8@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Chris, the "trimming" of the antennas depends upon the center frequency

in each band that you want as well as the height above ground - among several other things - where they will be erected.

It is almost impossible to build an antenna and then put it up and have the driving point impedance of the antenna be 50 ohms resistive at the desired frequency.

Other things near the antenna - trees, buildings, other wires and antennas, etc. - all influence the antenna impedance.

The makeup of an antenna depends not on the rig that will be driving it, but upon all the factors mentioned above.

Regardless, I think that you will have to be prepared to do some length pruning on the wires after the antenna is put up in order to get it to work properly.

72/73, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas NETXQRP 6

Fairview, TX 30 mi NE Dallas in Collin county QRP-L 1373
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 55th year and it just keeps getting better!
Icom IC-756 PRO #02121 (9/00) Kachina #91900556 (12/99) IC-765 (6/90)

Chris Wagner wrote:

>
> 17m rig: MFJ
> 20m rigs: ARK / SW+ / ...
> 30m rig: ARK
>
> In addition, "Codemaster 5" or other Win95 CW program is needed. Kindly
> reply direct. Thank you! 72, Chris

--

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 13:08:44 EST
From: RangerSF5@aol.com
To: QRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86312] KC-1 & NC 20-
Message-ID: <6a.970337a.276a66ac@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,
Is there a way so that I can use my NC-20 with my single lever WHITEROOK

keyer?

I don't like dual paddles and I have to send to the west coast for a set just so I can command the KC-1?

If I have to cut any traces on the board then i'll go with the dual paddles.

Anyone on the Right side of the Country have a set they want to sell?

Please *E* mail direct.

Thanks

Bob

WA2HQrp <tm>

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 13:38:42 +0000

From: "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>

To: kd5ckp@yahoo.com

Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [86313] Re: Concentricity

Message-ID: <200012141813.NAA00842@wolf.ncia.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

> If I begin by winding lines 1 and 2 concentrically, in a continuous spiral
> one line on top of the other, what formula would I use to determine the
> overall diameter or radius of the finished product.

>

Tim,

This sounds like the kind of calculus problem they throw at 'ya on the final to make sure you stay back a grade :-)

okay, I assume you mean one of the lines is a spacer and the lines are wound next to each other, not on top of each other.

I would view it as concentric circles, who's radius increases by the sum of the two diameters. Starting with the diameter of the hub, calculate the circumference of the circle. Subtract that from your total length. Now calculate the circumference of the next circle (hub+ dia 1 + dia 2). Continue on until you used up the total length.

You should be able program a spread sheet to do the repetative calculations. good luck!

72,

Steve, KD1JV in the white Mountains of New Hampshire

"melt solder"

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 12:05:42 -0600
From: Richard Matthews <prm@hiwaay.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86314] Re: WTB: monoband wire antennas trimmed to 50 ohm for 17/20/30m
Message-ID: <3.0.1.32.20001214120542.00c174c0@hiwaay.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I'm of the POJ ham antenna school of thought. I use the "any antenna is better than no antenna" way of thinking. For example, just a few days ago, I put together a 20 meter POJ dipole/inverted vee antenna to use with my powerful new SWL PSK-20 transceiver. I dug out some old RS SWL stranded copper wire, three egg insulators, a screw-on BNC male connector, and from under the house some old dusty 75 ohm TV cable coax. After cutting the wire close to lengths given by the 1/2 dipole formula, tying on the insulators, and soldering on the coax, I hung this new POJ antenna about a foot under the centerpoint of my other 40 meter POJ inverted vee. The ends of the new antenna were tied off to the gutter on one end and a tree on the other. I ran the coax through a foundation vent, made a hole in my A/C duct and brought the coax up through a floor vent near my easy chair.

Nope, no balun, no trimming, no fuss, but I do run the POJ antenna through a ZM-2 tuner before attaching to my transceiver. What's the SWR? I don't know, but it will work just fine. I've used antennas of the Piece-of-junk variety for many years and it fits my "keep it simple" view of life. Now I know many hams want to do everything just by the book and make everything as perfect as possible, and that's fine. I'm sure their station works much better than mine. My point is, I guess, you would be surprised how well piece-of-junk antennas work with very little fuss involved in getting them to work. I've built yagis and delta loops and verticals and wire antennas using my loose methods and worked many many other hams who do the same.

So, I guess my point is, if you are a new ham or a ham who is thinking about building that first antenna, don't be scared away by complexities. Even a half effort and just a little care will produce an antenna that will work pretty darn good. Give it a try.

I've got to string up an 80 meter POJ soon for that Warbler that is shipping this week, guess I'll have to crawl further back under the house to find more coax.

Richard WA4NWW looking forward to warbling soon.

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 13:18:28 -0500
From: Tom Mc <tjmc@erols.com>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86315] OT: tube ID found
Message-ID: <3A390EF4.B0C36205@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Tks agn to all that replied... I must have spent a good 1/2 hour searching for a good tube listing site...nothing. 2 mins here and the first answer came thru.

The tube was Id'ed as a type 30 tube. It is a medium-mu triode, with a 2 volt DC filament.

73
Tom

--

```
*****
*   Member of NORCAL, NJQRP, LIQRP, SGCI   *
*               K2 #1213                     *
*   Personal web page : www.erols.com/tjmc  *
*****
```

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 15:11:32 -0000
From: "M05aaa01" <merryprankster@CWCOM.NET>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86316] Re: Voltage Doubling circuits. Thanks all!
Message-ID: <000201c065fa\$5782e780\$26102cc3@M05aaa00>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello all, Bob here.
Thanks all for a stunning response,
the links and advice, on and off the list!
One thing! I have now realised is that,
when ever I ask for any help on this list.
I need to make a new folder,
to put all the replies in.
All the best from Bob. M5B0B

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 10:25:17 -0800
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
To: Low Power Amateru Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86317] Screwdriver antenna deployed.
Message-ID: <3A391088.59708E5D@qsl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi gang. I have a few qso's in the book on the BB3 screwdriver antenna now. It is installed in the back yard. I am using an old stainless whip from an ancient CB antenna. It is about 7 feet long, I think. I hate lossy S/S elements....

Anyway, I drilled down into the 3/8 inch (24 TPI) bolt that fits the top mount on the antenna. The hole in the bolt accepts the base of the whip. I drilled and tapped threads for 6-32 screws into the side of the bolt head and the shaft -- anchoring the whip with said 6-32 screws.

A brass threaded rod bolted to both sides of the copper ground plate at the base of the antenna allows easy connection of radials which have an eye loop connecting a group of 16, #28 CPU ribbon wires which are spread typically over the ground in the back yard.

Oh, the antenna is only 3 feet off the ground, sitting on a 4 inch PVC normally used for root-watering my baby tree out back. I cut a scrap 5 inch long piece of 1 inch diam. alum. tubing and flattened the tubing with a hammer, drilled two holes and this plate partially wraps around another section of 4 inch PVC which is flared to fit the pipe in the ground. The flared section is secured to the antenna base with long bolts passing thru to the flattened aluminum strip. I had to hacksaw into the small end of the flared PVC pipe so the bolts could help hold the pipe better and pass straight thru.

An old ferrite used in TV monitors was used to choke

off shield currents on the outside of the feed coax. Measurements on the Network Analyzer prove the need for only about 4 turns on 40 meters and more on 80 meters. I have about 7 turns now. Before adding the choke, swinging the coax around or hand capacitance affected the resonant frequency of the antenna. (I guess the kids can jumprope with the coax now since it won't affect operating frequency :-)

For operating comparison, my bowtie 40 meter dipole up 26 feet, fed with twisted pair feedline is MUCH better. However, for a 7 foot whip, resonant tunable from 3 to 30 MHz, the screwdriver with its 50 feet of lossy coax, 2.2 dB disadvantage compared to the dipole, seems to hold it own for its size, i.e, capture area. I believe if phase with another antenna to provide a similar directivity to my existing dipole, the resonant antenna might provide overall improvement over the dipole on all bands.

Ease of use would not be one of the assets, however. An error signal based motor control would be nice to automatically tune the antenna, as would remote sensing of its resonant frequency. 80 meter band required retuning more often than 40 meters, as expected.

Using the WM-2 wattmeter I measured the lower and upper frequency reflected power to determine bandwidth of the antenna when off resonance. Instead of 2:1 VSWR or some other accepted standard, I, a QRP'er, went to what "I" like to use for maximum VSWR: "Less than 100 mW reflected with 5 Watts output to antenna." This is where I "ALWAYS" operate, so I decided to use that for "My" standard. OK?

80 meters: +7/-6 KHz. (12 KHz)
40 Meters: +10/-40 KHz. (50 KHz)

NOTE: the "+/-" numbers are my measuement but depending on which wire of the screwdriver tuning unit was on, it could easily have reversed these numbers, i.e. +10/-40 could also be +40/-10 or some other 50 KHz range. Depends on the combination of tap and the antenna connected.

For those of you who were able to stop laughing at my radials long enough to read this, I do expect to improve those soon....

72/Ed we6w

--

72/Ed WE6W; A-1 Op; SOC#63; QRPL#1068
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA
My 2 pennies worth is just common cents.

Why pay for something you could get for free?
NetZero provides FREE Internet Access and Email
<http://www.netzero.net/download/index.html>

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 10:29:51 -0800 (PST)
From: Jim Cluett <w1pid@yahoo.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86318] NEQRP Net tonight
Message-ID: <20001214182951.28992.qmail@web11607.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

NEQRP net tonight at 9:00 eastern time
on 7035. Hope to see you there.
WQ1RP is the callsign of net control.

73 from Jim w1pid@arrl.net

Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Shopping - Thousands of Stores. Millions of Products.
<http://shopping.yahoo.com/>

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 13:35:44 -0500
From: Rick Robinson <rerobins@email.uncc.edu>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86319] Re: 160 QRP!?!
Message-ID: <v03102802b65ec294b31c@[152.15.144.71]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Paul, w0rw@aol.com, writes:

>Hi Steve.
>Now that you have a big antenna,
>Listen for the 'RW' beacon QRP on 480 kHz CW
>Late at night sending RW on CW...

Hi Paul,

Is RW your personal beacon or a licensed non-directional aircraft beacon?
I think a beacon operating on 480KHz would have to be a licensed NDB.

72,

Rick kf4ar

Date: 14 Dec 2000 10:38:31 -0800
From: W2BJ <barry@minsky.org>
To: n2cx@voicenet.com
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86320] Re: Warbler shipping update
Message-ID: <20001214183831.6970.cpmta@c001.snv.cp.net>
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Disposition: inline
Mime-Version: 1.0

On Wed, 13 December 2000, n2cx@voicenet.com wrote:

>
> Gang,
>
> The anxiously-awaited 2nd run of Warblers is being mailed daily. They are going
> out in approximately the order posted on the NJQRP web page (see below).

Hi Joe,
Thanks for all of the hard work you and others in your club are doing to make the
Warblers available for us. You are appreciated.

72/73,
Barry J. Minsky, W2BJ
ARRL, QRP ARCI #8871, NorCal #1560, QRP-L,
FISTS #2701, Century Club #569, Platinum #51,
Silver #119, FISTS CW Club of Coastal Georgia,
Knightlites, Adventure Radio Society #359, QCWA
#29298, OOTC #3723, SOC #193, K2 #577, K1
#98

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 13:46:24 -0500
From: "Don Wilhelm" <w3fpr@arrl.net>

To: <prm@hiwaay.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86321] Re: WTB: monoband wire antennas trimmed to 50 ohm for 17/20/30m
Message-ID: <008c01c065fe\$2ca0ad00\$23440f3f@dbw11main>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I too find that 'POJ' antennas work just as good as any other of the same general type - provided that one uses an antenna tuner to provide the required 50 ohm load to the transmitter.

These days things are not quite as lax as the olden times when we had a tunable Pi-Network on the transmitter output. These pi-networks were usually capable of handling an SWR of 3:1 or more and still presenting the proper load to the output tubes. The situation has really not changed except that now we must place the tuner outside the transmitter box to get similar flexibility.

73,
Don Wilhelm -Chapel Hill, NC
W3FPR QRP-L # 485 K2 SN 0020

----- Original Message -----

From: "Richard Matthews" <prm@hiwaay.net>

>

> ...

> Nope, no balun, no trimming, no fuss, but I do run the POJ antenna through
> a ZM-2 tuner before attaching to my transceiver. What's the SWR? I don't
> know, but it will work just fine. I've used antennas of the Piece-of-junk
> variety for many years and it fits my "keep it simple" view of life. ...

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 13:48:10 -0500 (EST)
From: igeq100@iupui.edu
To: RangerSF5@aol.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86322] Re: KC-1 & NC 20-
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.3.96.1001214134440.22390K-1000000@jade.iupui.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi, Bob -

I don't know the details of the Whiterook Keyer, but I suspect

that its output could be treated like a single contact closure (as from a straight key). All you would have to do is program the Tick keyer in the NC20 to accept straight-key input. If you use single (non-iambic) paddles directly with the NC20, there should be no problem, since they do the same switch closures as a dual paddle - you just can't close both contacts at the same time.

72/73,

Richard Meiss, WB9LPU

On Thu, 14 Dec 2000 RangerSF5@aol.com wrote:

> Hi Gang,
> Is there a way so that I can use my NC-20 with my single lever WHITEROOK
> keyer?
> I don't like dual paddles and I have to send to the west coast for a set
> just so I can command the KC-1?
> If I have to cut any traces on the board then i'll go with the dual paddles.
> Anyone on the Right side of the Country have a set they want to sell?
> Please *E* mail direct.
> Thanks
> Bob
> WA2HQrp <tm>
>
>

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 13:41:43 -0600
From: "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86323] NETXQRP Club Meeting
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20001214134143.00a534f0@mail.globeco.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

QRPLers,

The next meeting of the NETXQRP Club will be held this coming Saturday.
Interested folks are invited to attend.

December 16, 2000
1:00 to 3:00 PM

John Y Miguel's Cafe (Tex/Mex & 'merican)

104 State Highway 205
Terrell, TX
Phone: (972) 524-1447

Directions:

Miguel's is on the west side of Terrell. It is on 205 north, near the intersection of I-80, 205, and 148. 205 goes north from I-80 toward Rockwall and 148 goes south back across I-20. Go north on 205 about 1/4 mile and it's on the right. Big place, hard to miss. It's just past a Kuick Kar lube-and-tune place and across the road is a Walmart plaza.

If you have a favorite QRP something you'd like to bring along, please do. Weather permitting we plan to try some portable operation either behind the restaurant or at a local park in Terrell. Come join the fun!

For more NETXQRP Club info check our website: <http://www.netxqrp.org/>

Chuck Carpenter, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, RARA #3, NETXQRP #1
ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, SOC #57, Six Club #201, SMIRK #6275

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 15:22:16 -0500 (EST)
From: n2go@arrl.net
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86324] Re: FS teflon xmas bulk/non-bulk ?
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.21.0012141510470.1572-100000@valhalla.v>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Lot of messages regarding less than 10,000' bulk for \$200 plus ups....
UPS rate based on 12"x12"x12" box at 50# from 14227 zipcode.

Two options currently:

- 1) 500' assortment pack- 10x 50' rolls of tfe 22awg Shipped for \$23.20
(2# without spool)
- 2) one 1000' roll 22 or 24 AWG tfe \$35 plus \$6.50 priority mail.
(5# with spool)

73,

Jim n2go

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 12:24:24 -0800
From: "J. D. Spittle VE7QK" <jds@vcn.bc.ca>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86325] SPK/MIC and PSK-31 with the Epiphyte-3
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20001214122424.007b32a0@mail.vcn.bc.ca>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

For the "final checkout" I recommend that an inexpensive electret element be used with a completely separate PTT switch. Some experimentation is usually necessary before getting spk/mics to function properly in equipment for which they were not designed. You should only attempt this after you are completely satisfied that everything else is functioning correctly. I will be pleased to mail you the circuit I have used with a "Radio Shack" spk/mic if you forward me your address. Or wait until after Christmas and I'll make a PDD file of it to e-mail.

You can read PSK-31 with an EP-3 but the complexity of the T/R sequencing circuitry and interfacing it with DigiPan isn't worth the hassle. Get your name on the list for a "Warbler"! I bought one at PACIFICON.

On December 13th, 2000 Dan Reynolds KB9JL0 wrote:-

> Can someone explain in a little more detail how to
> make an Icom type speaker mike work with the Epiphyte
> 3 kit. I'm done except for final checkout and
> installing the PA. I'm kind of stalled here. I
> didn't understand how the instructions said to do
> this.
>
> Hey, has anybody tried using an Epiphyte for PSK?
>
> Dan Reynolds - KB9JL0

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 12:30:24 -0800
From: "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86326] Re: LM386 replacement experiments
Message-ID: <003601c0660c\$b0b3fbc0\$e7f2fc9e@oemcomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Bill

I'm curious about what you are trying to accomplish here?

The LM380 is a good audio PA, and can deliver quite a lot of audio.

Is there a particular problem you are trying to solve?

73, Bob N6WG

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 15:35:11 -0500

From: w2xn@juno.com

To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [86327] Fw: CUB FOX HUNT - NOIT

Message-ID: <20001214.153520.-761323.2.w2xn@juno.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dave:

(you wrote:)

> I started at 7.117 and operated there for maybe
>25 minutes. Then spent most of the time at 7.111
>which seemed a little clearer. I even called cq a
>couple times on 7.140 when I heard no
>activity there. At 0300z I pulled the plug.

I am sorry to hear that you didn't stay on the 7117 freq where you said you were going to be, and for the the full 2 hours. You could have called CQ Fox every couple minutes, and listened for the hounds that were calling you too. Us'n hounds out here were desperately looking for you there, and tried for the full 2 hours to find you.

But, really, thanks for trying with the noise and all. I know your intentions were good and if the bands had been better you would have had a long list of hounds.

Maybe next time.

Fred W2XN w2xn@arrl.net

ARRL, ARES, Skywarn #POL-007, V E;

QRP: AR #233, QRP-L #1728, NJ #197, Zombie #709, FP #126

GET INTERNET ACCESS FROM JUNO!

Juno offers FREE or PREMIUM Internet access for less!

Join Juno today! For your FREE software, visit:

<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 12:35:44 -0800
From: "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86328] Re: Screwdriver antenna deployed.
Message-ID: <003a01c0660d\$6f5f52e0\$e7f2fc9e@oemcomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ed

The wire gauge of your radials isn't such a big deal. The more radials you have, the less the gauge matters, as the current is divided among all of them. Remember, I^2R . Every time you reduce the current in a conductor, the losses decrease faster.

A second thing you can do to increase the effectiveness of your radial field is to tie a perimeter wire to the radial ends. It doesn't have to be any heavier gauge than the radials themselves.

73, Bob N6WG

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 13:29:16 -0500
From: Bob Kellogg <ae4ic@nr.infi.net>
To: KLQRP Reflector <klqrp@applegate.org>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86329] Next Knitelite Net, Dec 17(Dec 10 Report)
Message-ID: <3A39117B.D9B8D340@nr.infi.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Guys,

The propagation was pretty good last Sunday night for the net. Some of our usual "DX" stations, WB0CLD and K1CL, checked in with fine signals.

Randy, WJ4P, checked in from near Charleston, SC, with 15mW. I believe almost everyone who checked in copied him!

Here's the list:

WJ4P	Randy	Charleston, SC	15mW	
AA4XX	Paul	Raleigh, NC	75mW	
N4HAY	Dick	Morrisville, NC		
N4DR	Marc	Rockville, MD	2W	
N3GO	Gary	Raleigh, NC	5W	
W4GFA	George	Walhalla, SC	5W	(Formerly K4PYM)
WB0CLD	Bill	St. Charles, MO	5W	
K1CL	Chuck	Chelmsford, MA	5W	(Reported Gud Cpy WB0CLD)
AB4PP	John Paul,	Raleigh, NC	3W	(The birthday boy)
AE4IC	Bob	Greensboro, NC	5W	(your NCS)

The Knightlite net meets Sunday nights at 9PM Eastern time on 3.6864 MHz. We usually set the keyer at about 18WPM so we can easily slow down by the Farnsworth method, but we are glad to go much slower if desired.

The net is a low key, low pressure net. It works like this:

The Net Control Station asks for check-ins by the query QNI? Stations checking in send their Call at that time. The NCS acknowledges them by repeating their call, followed by AS (Please stand by). Note: the NCS will often ask for QRPp stations to check in first. Then the NCS goes through his list, taking each station in turn, asking each for comments.

Comments can be very simple exchange of station and RST information, but should include first name and QTH. We are always interested in the power used and antennas as well as projects being built, hamfests, etc. This is a very informal exchange, a chance to tell active hams about your current project or ask questions.

The NCS may stop running the list occasionally to call CQ for additional stations to check in. Nevertheless, each station will have a chance to comment. When all stations have checked in and made their comments, the net is closed.

Regardless of your code speed, feel free to check in with us. One of the reasons we run the net is to continue our practice sending and receiving CW.

See you next Sunday!

--

73,

Bob Kellogg, AE4IC, Greensboro, NC
Prolobly, not nececelery. - Benny Hill

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 12:38:52 -0800
From: "Bob Tellefsen" <n6wg@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86330] Re: 160 QRP!?!
Message-ID: <003e01c0660d\$df7700a0\$e7f2fc9e@oemcomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Steve
I get on 160m most evenings for a while to try to drum up a QSO.
Out here on the left coast, 160m activity is pretty sparse. I don't always
make a contact, but at least I'm in there, putting a signal on the band for
a while.
I'll listen for you in the times you mentioned, to see if I can hear you.
73, Bob N6WG

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 12:45:43 -0800
From: schoon@amgt.com
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86331] [OT] Renewing Amateur License
Message-ID: <c=US%a=_%p=American_Geotech%l=AG-CALCITE-
BDC-001214204543Z-17@mail.amgt.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks for reading!

My license is due to expire in April 2001 and I got one of these
renewal letters from W5YI and for \$6 he'll take care of it for me. Now,
\$6 can buy a lot of parts for QRP so I have a feeling there's a way to
do it for free. After reading the directions for the 605, I think I can
just fill it out and send it in. Am I under the correct assumption
here?? No information will be changing, everything is correct. If you
can confirm what I'm about to do is correct, please email my directly.

TIA & 72

.mark
IS Manager

"The difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has its limits"

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 16:00:09 US/Eastern
From: n2cx@voicenet.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: njqrp@njqrp.org
Subject: [86332] Christmas solare eclipse
Message-ID: <200012142100.QAA656914@nss4.cc.lehigh.edu>

Gang,

Someone was looking for info on the partial eclipse on Christmas day sometime in the last week or two. I don't recall a response to the list. Forgive me if there was such.

Out gummint has some info avialable at:

http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2000/ast15dec_1.htm?list104888

And there **is** a QRP connection. I recall back in the 60's chasing 40 meter DX with (what was then QRP) a 15 watt cw rig. I noted a mid-day extension of propagation to VE8 from New Jersey during a full eclipse.

Joe
E

This message was sent using Voicenet WebMail.
<http://www.voicenet.com/webmail/>

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 13:11:04 -0800
From: Bill Jones <kd7s@psnw.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86333] Re:LM386 replacement experiments
Message-ID: <3A393768.81117A3E@psnw.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Several people (including Bob) have asked what my goal is by looking for a replacement for the LM386. In a nutshell, better stability, a little more power output, fewer external components and a little more flexibility in power supply voltage range. Don't get me wrong, I'm not a '386 basher by any means. But I have to wonder if maybe there is a better mousetrap out there that we QRPers haven't adopted yet.

Bob Tellefsen wrote:

>
> Hi Bill
> I'm curious about what you are trying to accomplish here?
> The LM380 is a good audio PA, and can deliver quite a lot of audio.
> Is there a particular problem you are trying to solve?
> 73, Bob N6WG

--

Bill Jones - KD7S <><
Sanger, California
<http://www.psnw.com/~kd7s/>

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 15:25:37 -0600
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: <WA3JAT@aol.com>
Cc: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86334] Ten Tec Superhet kit
Message-ID: <009201c06614\$66895830\$5ac07481@rohredt2000>

I was the author of the second review cited on building the Ten Tec kit. Actually, mine is superior on 160M and 80M to my Kenwood 450 and a number of other Yaecomwood models, by virtue of having less band noise, (lower noise floor) than the commercial ham rigs. Many of the imports easily overload on the lower bands even with preamp off, and should be run with their passive attenuator turned on to prevent this.

The main nag with the Ten Tec radio is the need to coax feed it. I think by added shielding and bypassing the display refresh noise could be removed from being picked up by the sensitive antenna of random wire. The display board is much like the K2 in mounting and size, and the K2 board does not make noise. I think they shut it down except when refreshed, which may be different in the Ten Tec.

The other thing I will try to help the antenna selection, is removing the components that couple DC to the antenna for use by an active antenna

circuit. Most hams would not be using one anyway, and that is just another sneak path from power to front end, even if decoupled.

I really enjoy the short wave listening the Ten Tec offers, since the K2 is ham bands mostly.

72,

Stuart K5KVH

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 16:27:03 -0500
From: "Joe Trombino" <w2kj@earthlink.net>
To: <QRP-L@LEHIGH.EDU>
Subject: [86335] RE: Heil MicroPro headsets on sale at AES
Message-ID: <014101c06614\$9b199ce0\$2a52fc9e@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Howdy Gang:

I ordered two pairs of the Heil MicroProsets with the HC-4 mike cartridge earlier this morning from the AES store in Milwaukee along with two adaptor cords. At that time the salesman said they still had several left in stock.

These headsets are on sale for \$49.99 (normal price is \$110) and they are a great bargain. I have been using the MicroPro/HC4 (purchased 2 years ago for \$110) with my K2, Yaesu FT736R and OMNI VI and get consistently very good audio reports. So they were just too much of a bargain for me to pass up.

Understand that these headsets require an accessory adaptor cord that allows you to plug into the radio of your choice. For example, there is one model adaptor cord that fits the TenTec 4 pin mike connectors and another adaptor cord that will fit the Yaesu 8 pin mike connector, etc etc. These adaptors cost \$16.99 each but allow you to use one MicroProset on several different radios.

The HC4 cartridge is described as a good "DX" mike and the HC5 is described as a good "rag chew" mike.

These Heil units are so good that I might have to consider

selling my Shure 444D's:-)

Usual disclaimer...no relationship to Heil or AES...just a very happy user of this particular product.

73, Joe W2KJ (North Carolina)

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 15:50:26 -0600
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: <w3irz@att.net>
Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86336] balun or not and engineers may not be skilled in all aspects
Message-ID: <009801c06617\$de3f5f70\$5ac07481@rohredt2000>

Mike,

I too have made many a dipole without a balun, and they work as long as the feeder does not reach the critical length of quarterwave at the frequency in use, and thus allow RF to go up to the antenna and come down the outside of the shield.

It is always a good plan to preserve the balance of the center fed dipole with a balun, if coax fed from transmitter. Next in better ways would be to block the outside the coax shield current if any, with a cable choke. Often called a "balun" it is a coil of coax that chokes off RF from getting on the outer shield. Bead "baluns" can serve the same function.

But on the aspect of doing it because some engineer wrote a plan to do it that way---Ahem. We get a lot of young bright student engineers, grad students, that did not get transmission line theory if they were taught any in the first place. They often come up with research project circuits that do not work the way they thought they would. Most have no grasp of the RF ground, DC ground, lightning ground or ground loop theory. They are mostly computer jocks and digital circuit oriented today, and do not have a good grounding in analog circuits, antennas, and feeds. It is black magic to them. The trade press lament that you can not find analog knowledgeable engineers right out of most schools today, and serious efforts are made to recruit those so skilled. It takes us a couple of years to make a useful engineer from the graduates who have the paper saying engineer, but often simply are good test takers. Many have never built a radio or circuit except on those plug in lab demo boards, if then.

You can drive 60 mph on bald tires or with new treads. It is not the best thing to do on the former. Same for use of baluns, they may usefully solve an application, and theoretically should be used going from a balanced antenna to an unbalanced feeder and rig. You defeat a balanced feed line if you simply ground one side to an unbalanced signal source. Under some conditions most anything will work, but working as well as possible is another matter.

Would I put up a coax fed dipole at Field Day without a balun at antenna center? Yep have done that, but when we had RF in the shack, we used a balun to fix the problem. A coax fed dipole is a fine temporary solution with attention to feeder length. For more permanent installations, and multibanding, a theoretical best way of doing it with balun may be the most trouble free. We should not obsess over anything, it is only a hobby, but recognize those tools that can make operations more enjoyable. (Never liked those sparks off the radio case to my hand.) :-)

72,
Stuart K5KVH

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 16:55:23 EST
From: K2UD@aol.com
To: schoon@amgt.com
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86337] Re: [OT] Renewing Amateur License
Message-ID: <41.4de7608.276a9bcb@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

You are completely correct. You can renew for free by sending it to the FCC yourself.

What a guy, that Fred! It's real helpful that he'll send all your paperwork to the FCC for a fee. How friendly!

Instead, send him a Christmas card, telling him that you bought stocking stuffers with the \$6.00 you saved!

72

Howard Kraus, K2UD

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 15:58:54 -0600
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: "lenny wintfeld" <w2bvh@home.com>
Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86338] scope probes
Message-ID: <009e01c06619\$0d17e820\$5ac07481@rohredt2000>

The Tektronix probe is a fine device, but it is like paying for the Mercedes radiator emblem.

You may find sticker shock.

Look on the web for companies like Probemaster of San Diego I believe. They make general replacement probes up to VHF or more, and both 1:1 and 10:1 switchable of fixed types. Prices are about \$30 and up. There are a couple of others, and most import probes are OK these days.

Like most things, there is an aftermarket product scope probe for most scopes. Check Mouser and Digi Key they may also carry them, some distributors do.

GL and 72,
Stuart K5KVH

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 16:12:45 -0600
From: Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: w2xn@juno.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86339] Re: Fw: CUB FOX HUNT - N0IT
Message-ID: <3A3945DD.5C92A47C@swbell.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

w2xn@juno.com wrote:

>

> I am sorry to hear that you didn't stay on the 7117 freq where you said
> you were going to be, and for the the full 2 hours. You could have
> called CQ Fox every couple minutes, and listened for the hounds that were
> calling you too. Us'n hounds out here were desperately looking for you
> there, and tried for the full 2 hours to find you.

Fred, I called cq for twenty seconds, listened for ten, called cq again

constantly for nearly half an hour and got three calls. I did it manually too. Either there was no interest, no propagation, or the broadcast qrm was clobbering me.

After nearly a half hour I moved down six khz in attempt to find quieter frequency. Radios have tuning knobs for a reason. Sorry you didnt find me. I believe I heard AI2Q (599) working Isreal so I think the band was open to the east coast

I would have stayed the full second hour if there had been any interest in the first but a half hour of no response does not motivate one to continue to dig a deeper hole.

73 de Dave, N0IT

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 16:35:43 -0600
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: <w5drc@earthlink.net>
Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86340] Faulty merchandise and look at warranty terms up front
Message-ID: <00a401c0661e\$31fc1530\$5ac07481@rohredt2000>

Lee,

I am sorry you had a problem with MFJ antenna. However, I would like to point out to all, that it is common commercial practice in ANY warranty, and in fact may be federal law, that shipping back to them or from the dealer in your case, is not covered by warranty. It is a cost of doing business.

For example, through no fault of another antenna company, the shipper broke open a carton and lost most of the hardware enroute to me. The Antenna company had to ship me replacement hardware at their cost of shipping. Luckily, since this was caused by shipping company fault, I was not billed shipping, UPS was. My duty was to report the damage, which I did, and file a claim with UPS. The antenna company supplied the missing parts and took the claim to the shipper.

I was very complete in describing the problem both on the UPS claim form, and to the antenna manufacturer, even to describing how UPS had tried to "fix" the opened box, almost concealing the damage.

I also was able to determine a reasonable explanation of how UPS had erred and passed it on to the antenna company with a suggestion on how to improve the fastening of their package to prevent this in the future, based on how UPS equipment might handle such a long box. Thus, I put a little effort into my claim, and luckily came out whole.

I am sorry you did not get satisfaction, but did you go all the way to the

top? I have always found Martin Jue to be a most reasonable gentleman. He is most innovative, and many hams could not afford some equipment that Martin markets at a good pricepoint, except to use his products.

Quality control anywhere is an ongoing manufacturing problem. Currently I am consulting on a military application of a recording product from one of the Asia's leading companies inventing new recording formats today. At issue, is that even with their high tech manufacturing on robotic assembly lines, we are seeing 1% failure rates in a model in both commercial low duty cycle use and in shipboard use. And this is right out of the box failures, which is what has the military concerned. With price breaks in 100 quantities, this means they have to buy 101 at added cost, to get 100 working systems, and each failure has added costs as you found out.

I have seen antennas at low end pricing like the MFJ, sold with disclaimers that they are only rated to 55 mph. I am not sure this was the MFJ case, but did you make a technical assessment of your application and the suitability of the product before use? At the very least, asking for collateral damages to the car, as this is called is often excluded in today's standard warranties. Look at the fine print on most anything that could do damage by malfunction, and you will see other damage loss excluded.

By the right approach, and pointing out a design failure you can often get a more satisfactory solution to the problem. Engineering is not an exact science. Did you ever see the movies of the Tacoma Narrows suspension bridge failure right after it was built? Now there was a product liability case!

The bottom line is warranties often limit what damage is covered, and are very specific in remedies excluding shipping charges. You cannot fault a company for adhering to consumer laws.

Maybe a follow up to Martin would help cover your added costs.
Good Luck and 73,
Stuart K5KVH

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 14:42:18 -0800
From: dave_epps@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86341] MS-15 alive in Fresno
Message-ID: <20001214.145611.-160439.0.dave_epps@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

This is the new "Melt Solder" KD1JV 15 meter transceiver kit . He has outdone himself on this one. I think some of Dave Benson is rubbing off on him.

I just made the first qso with KB80MG Barry in West Union, Ohio. He gave me a 559 and said that the band conditions were very poor.

If you haven't received yours yet you are in for a pleasant surprise.

Check and recheck everything before soldering. This is the first rig I've built with a "Super VX0"

Thanks Steven for a great qrp kit.

dave ab5pc fresno, ca.

GET INTERNET ACCESS FROM JUNO!

Juno offers FREE or PREMIUM Internet access for less!

Join Juno today! For your FREE software, visit:

<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 17:01:26 -0600

From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>

To: <ku7y@qsl.net>

Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [86342] Contest skills, changing bands

Message-ID: <00aa01c06621\$c9936d50\$5ac07481@rohredt2000>

Ron and the group,

We have never had a problem on Field Day with losing time changing bands. You can combine it with a break for one of the operators, food run, etc. Have a transmatch with a logging chart for each band made up ahead of time and you can preset a manual transmatch. We also use low Q antennas where the setting is good for most of the band or just do not worry about resetting. Never makes a difference in QSO rate, and in fact is much faster than waiting on an autotuner. Having multiple transmatches and antennas is another helpful trick. You can borrow similar ones to make setting uniform.

Since most contests require you to stay on a band a set minimum time, there is no jumping around requiring change of settings that often. We start on the highest band that is open, and if the Q rate falls, we move down a band, and move again if conditions warrant that. We methodically work from one end of the band on down and back up again until we work them out. You have to get the feel of a band, and by experience know if the QSO rate is falling off, and it is perhaps time to move.

One thing that is counter productive to your time schedule is waiting on a beam rotator. We have found that in Field Day, being as there is so little

time since Dayton, you just aim a beam at Dayton, and the residual ionization over it, and you can scatter your signal over all the country! :-) We have witnesses to this working!

What we really do with beams is rig a rope "Armstrong" rotor, and use a beam that is broad in main lobe. A Moxon rectangle is good for this. By using knowledge of how propagation moves west as the day gets later, you can be strategic in antenna rotation.

Use of gain omni antennas like Extended Zepps or horizontal loops bigger than a wavelength is another way to save time, if you have the good ear to live with an omni antenna response.

And that is a major point. I know folks who do not deal enough with contest conditions and cannot hear perfectly loud contacts on Field Day because it is crowded or they have hearing losses, and the QRM is a noise mask to them hearing. I am thankful I have my hearing, and I guard it around industrial loud exposures, and do not do rock concerts! :-)

Thanks for reminding us of some more points in contest skills.

72,

Stuart K5KVH

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 2000 18:54:40 EST
From: RangerSF5@aol.com
To: K2UD@aol.com, qrp-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86343] Re: KC-1 & NC 20-Need more help!!!!
Message-ID: <99.e02f895.276ab7c0@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 12/14/00 4:50:49 PM Eastern Standard Time, K2UD writes:

<<

Does the KC-1 definitely need dual lever paddles to command? I don't believe mine does. If you're using the TiCK keyer in the NC-20, I don't believe it needs dual lever paddles to command either. The only function you'll be without is iambic operation, but you should still be able to perform all commands with the single lever, unless I'm missing something.

>>

Yes,

Look in the book.

To use my mini electronic keyer I need to place 2 wires on the board where you see the letter (K) 2 holes there

I also had to insert a resistor but still can't get MY sidetone to work.
I had to make up a wire,(3 conductor) to act as the dit/dah paddle.
You need the dit or dah to complete the command like locking it in memory.
I had big hopes of working that today.
If anyone reading this knows how to wire up the mini electronic keyer please
let me know.
The keyer worked but I had no sidetone.
I tried resistors from 150 ohm up to 4.7K.
Have TX and no sidetone
I gave up for now.
Going for a beer, maybe a case and a half pizza.
72
Bob
WA2HOQrp<tm>

End of QRP-L Digest 2036

